

# ARMY



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As to the quality of recruits accepted by recruiting officers, General Gibbon in a recent circular to his Department sensibly directs that "no man will be accepted unless such as the recruiting officer would be willing to have in his own company." If this rule was generally observed there would be no fault to find with our soldiers, so far, at least, as physique is concerned.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E. C. MASON, 4th U. S. Infantry, Inspector General Department of Dakota, gives voice to a general sentiment in his recent annual report when he says: "Considerable difficulty is experienced in the military instruction of troops, arising out of the urgent need for a revision of the tactics. The decisions on points of tactics are now so numerous as to prove a serious embarrassment to officers who are required to drill. It is much to be desired that all these decisions should be embodied in a new issue of the tactics, and the details of the manoeuvres made so clear as to be beyond question."

THE contest for the Assistant Surgeon Generalship of the Army has ended by the appointment of Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Page, whose nomination will be sent to the Senate in a few days. In making this selection the President, it is understood, was guided by an elaborate review of the laws governing promotion in the Medical Department, prepared by Major Asa Bird Gardiner, J. A. The general conclusion was that Lieutenant-Colonel Page, and he alone, by reason of his position as senior lieutenant colonel, was entitled to the vacant colonelcy which carried with it the office of Assistant Surgeon General. The other promotions following Colonel Page's advancement are Major James McKee, surgeon, to be surgeon with the rank of lieutenant colonel, and Captain Alfred O. Girard, assistant surgeon, to be surgeon with the rank of major.

THE fleet of Coast Survey craft now hibernating at the Brooklyn Navy-yard reaches quite a respectable roster. It is composed of the following steamers: *Blake*, *Gedney* and *Endeavor*, and the well known sailing craft *Apollinarus*, *Eagle* (formerly the yacht *Mohawk*), *Drift*, *Ready* and *Matchless*. The entire number are in excellent condition, and the work of the past summer is being rapidly put into shape for use in the preparation of the valuable chart and map work for which the Coast Survey Office has for so long been justly famous. The employment of naval officers for Coast Survey work has proved to be one of most valuable educational methods to which they have access, and the real worth of the system will be more and more manifest as the years go on and the U. S. Navy list emerges from that obscurity which wooden ships and dusty traditions imposed upon it.

QUITE an interesting experiment was tried last week at the New York Yard, in an attempt to render a torpedo boat invisible by means of mirrors so arranged on the bow as to present to the observer not the bow of the boat but a reflection of the water directly in front of it. Considerably to the surprise of the witnesses of the experiment, it was found that unless the position of the advancing craft was known beforehand it was quite impossible to detect its approach, the mirrors showing only the color and movement of the water about the bow, but giving

no other indication of the presence of the boat. A further experiment at night, however, revealed the weakness of the plan, for as soon as the powerful beam of the electric search light was turned on the advancing mirrors, the angle of incidence and reflection became at once an intensely bright spot, visible to a far greater distance than the ordinary torpedo boat. Further trials with the novel idea will perhaps demonstrate a valuable addition to torpedo defences and warfare.

THE conspicuous absence of any reference in Secretary Whitney's annual report to the Navy reorganization scheme, which he so strongly advocated last winter, is taken by most Naval officers to mean that no further effort will be made in this direction by the Secretary during the present session of Congress. Two opinions are advanced for this supposed change in the Secretary's plan. The first, and the one most generally accepted as correct, is that the Secretary has come to believe, after a year's further experience and deliberation, that the present bureau system is not so bad after all and that the radical changes proposed last year were recommended without sufficient consideration. The other view, which is offered by the opponents of last year's measure, is to the effect that the Secretary realizes the strength of the opposition which defeated last year's bill and anticipating a like result this year has concluded to spare himself the trouble incident to a strong advocacy of such measure. If the Secretary succeeds in getting a lump appropriation for stores and supplies so as to enable him to perfect the system lately organized under the Bureau of Provision and Clothing, it is believed that he will not care for any further assistance from Congress in the way of reorganization or consolidation of bureaus. What changes he now considers desirable it is thought can be brought about without further Legislative action.

AN Indianapolis despatch states that Oliver P. Cardwell, a deserter from the U. S. Army, fell near the State House, Dec. 14, and died soon afterward of a dose of strychnine. He believed that officers were in pursuit, and said he preferred death rather than capture and return to the Army. This, of course, is calculated to convey the impression that the soldier's life is made so distressing to him that he finds no other alleviation but desertion, and having deserted, prefers death to capture and the contingent results. There is a lamentable amount of fiction spread abroad by the daily press as to the severity of a soldier's life. Still, of late, there have been statements publicly made as to the treatments at some posts of enlisted men and the uses to which they are often put, which under the bushel of lies may conceal the mustard grain of truth. Even this much fact in a mass of fiction should not be overlooked nor underestimated by the military authorities. Soldiers, as a class, are apt to grumble, but treat them like men and members of a noble calling, and in nine cases out of ten their better nature will speedily assert itself. The tenth man, if too hard to mould into military shape, can be disciplined first and ejected afterwards if discipline proves useless. There seems, to us at least, no difficulty in maintaining at all times the proper relations on duty and off duty between the officer and the enlisted man. Each has specific duties to perform, well defined, and beyond which neither officer nor soldier has a right to go. Let each stick closely to the letter of his duty and his obedience,

and we fancy but little friction could occur. But the step beyond leads too often to the injury of the Service. We are firm believers, always, in a rigid discipline, based upon the Military Code and in a exact performance of the several duties and responsibilities imposed by regulations upon each member of the military profession. But the obligation upon the officer is just as imperative as upon the enlisted man. If he fails he should be held to an accountability which will make him understand that the control given him over the liberty of others is a sacred trust which must not be influenced in its administration in the smallest degree by personal feeling or personal interest.

At the last meeting of the Society of the Army of the Potomac a committee was appointed to arrange for a reunion of the Northern and Southern veterans on the field of Gettysburg next July. Whatever may be thought of the project, it was the duty of those who accepted places upon the committee to carry out the spirit and purpose of the resolution under which they were acting, and in selecting an orator for the occasion to bear in mind the fact that he was to address the soldiers of both the armies which met at Gettysburg in 1863. It was suggested that the Comte de Paris should be invited, his selection being based upon his thorough study of the Gettysburg campaign from an unpartisan point of view, and not upon any claim of distinguished service during the war, which no one assumes to have been rendered. As Captain Philippi D'Oreans, late U. S. Vols., the Count has been a member of the Society of the Army of the Potomac since its first organization, and this was a further argument for his selection. Of the forty-two members of the committee all expressing an opinion concurred in this choice with the exception of two. One of these was General Benj. F. Butler, which fact would not have been mentioned had not General Butler chosen to make it public by giving to the press this despatch:

BOSTON, Nov. 28, 1887.

General Daniel Butterfield:

Yours asking my consent and signature to an invitation to the Comte de Paris to deliver the address at Gettysburg, I answer by telegraph as requested:

I am too American, and I hope too much of a soldier of the War of the Rebellion, to invite a Frenchman who, because he was a Prince, was permitted to play soldier for his own aggrandizement on the staff of a Commanding General in that war, and who as such officer was at one time at the head of that General's Bureau of Information, and for want of knowledge of the peculiarities of our people and the idioms of our language, did his Commander, as I happen to know, great mischief, to speak for the armies of the United States at the reunion at Gettysburg. I would rather agree to any officer of the rank of Colonel or above who served through the war to be such representative of our soldiers.

BENJ. F. BUTLER.

General Butler evidently considered his autograph valuable even at the end of a telegram, for he left the despatch to be paid for by the gentleman to whom he addressed it, the other despatches received by him being prepaid. This is not important, but it is characteristic. There was an understanding among the committee that the discussion as to the choice of orator should be considered confidential, and the propriety of this was obvious without any such understanding. But General Butler evidently has a different idea of the proprieties. As he will hardly claim to be more of an "American" or "a soldier of the War of the Rebellion" than Slocum, Couch, Doubleday, Parke, Hunt, Robinson, Barlow, and others whose names appear upon the committee, his course is doubtless to be explained by that much finer appreciation of the obligations of the gentleman, which is General Butler's distinguishing characteristic.

## PERSONAL ITEMS.

CAPTAIN J. C. THOMPSON, 3d U. S. Cavalry, is spending the holidays in St. Louis.

CHAPLAIN O. J. NAVE, U. S. A., has taken charge of religious matters at Fort Omaha, Neb.

COLONEL JOHN M. WILSON, U. S. A., visited Newburgh, N. Y., this week, on public business.

GENERAL J. C. FREMONT was a guest at the Astor House, New York City, early in the week.

GENERAL A. McD. McOOK, U. S. A., has returned to Fort Leavenworth from his trip to Old Mexico.

CAPTAIN S. M. MILLS, 5th U. S. Artillery, of Fort Monroe, Va., spent the week in New York city on leave.

LIEUTENANT B. K. ROBERTS, 5th U. S. Artillery, paid a visit this week to friends at Fort Schuyler, N. Y. H.

LIEUTENANT H. T. ALLEN, 2d U. S. Cavalry, at present in Europe, will remain there until next summer.

LIEUTENANT J. W. HEARD, 3d U. S. Cavalry, was to leave Fort Davis, Texas, this week, on a month's vacation.

LIEUTENANT THOMAS CRUSE, 6th U. S. Cavalry, has left Fort Stanton, New Mexico, to be absent for two months.

CAPTAIN W. H. BOYLE, 21st Infantry, lately visiting in New York City, will remain East for a few weeks longer.

LIEUTENANT LOTUS NILES, 2d U. S. Artillery, returned to St. Augustine, Fla., this week from a short leave of absence.

MR. WINFIELD S. HANCOCK, a nephew of the late General Hancock, was married last week to Miss Bessie Markriter.

CAPTAIN D. J. YOUNG, U. S. A., of Watertown Arsenal, Mass., reached his sixty-third birthday, on Sunday last, Dec. 11.

MAJOR J. B. CAMPBELL, 4th U. S. Artillery, on leave, from Fort Monroe, Va., visited friends in New York city this week.

LIEUTENANT R. G. PROCTER, 5th U. S. Artillery, lately on sick leave, at Auburn, Ky., will spend the most of the winter in the South.

LIEUTENANT E. M. WEAVER, JR., 2d U. S. Artillery, rejoined at Fort Monroe, Va., this week, from a pleasant visit to New York City.

LIEUTENANT W. H. HAY, 3d U. S. Cavalry, and bride, lately at Euston, Md., will join at San Antonio, about the middle of January.

COLONEL GEO. L. ANDREWS, 25th U. S. Infantry, relinquishes command of Fort Snelling, Minn., to come East to spend the winter on leave.

MAJOR F. S. DODGE, U. S. A., visited West Point on Saturday last, and made the first monthly payment to the enlisted men there stationed.

CAPTAIN F. B. HAMILTON, 2d U. S. Artillery, and bride, lately at St. Augustine, Fla., will join at Mt. Vernon Barracks, Ala., early in January.

GENERAL F. T. DENT, U. S. A., retired, residing at 2015 Q street, Washington, D. C., will attain his sixty-seventh birthday on Saturday of this week.

CAPTAIN W. N. SAGE, 11th U. S. Infantry, on sick leave from Madison Barracks, N. Y., has been found incapacitated for active service by a Retiring Board.

CAPTAIN R. G. SHAW, 1st U. S. Artillery, has returned, with his battery, to the Presidio of San Francisco from a delicate tour of duty at the Round Valley Indian Reservation.

MAJOR GEO. M. STERNBERG, Surgeon, U. S. A., lately in Washington, now returns to Baltimore for duty, much to his own satisfaction and the satisfaction of his friends in that city.

2d LIEUTENANT W. P. NEWCOMB, 5th U. S. Artillery, who was graduated in 1882, becomes 1st lieutenant by the retirement of Captain Reed. He is at present on duty at West Point.

2d LIEUTENANT C. P. TOWNSLEY, 4th U. S. Artillery, on duty at West Point, will attain a 1st lieutenancy as a New Year's gift by the resignation, Dec. 31, of 1st Lieut. Williston Fish.

LIEUTENANT AMBROSE I. MORIARTY, 6th U. S. Infantry, who left the Service by resignation on Thursday of this week to engage in civil pursuits, was graduated from West Point this year.

LIEUTENANT D. L. CRAFT, 6th U. S. Infantry, who has been on duty at the camp near Chicago, was expected in St. Paul this week to be examined by the Retiring Board of which Gen. Ruger is President.

MAJOR E. B. BEAUMONT, 4th U. S. Cavalry, of Fort Bowie, Arizona, will spend January and part of February on leave. His friends in New York City and vicinity will be glad to see him come their way.

DR. REED B. BONTECOU, of Troy, who served during the War as major and surgeon of volunteers and was for many years attending surgeon at the Watervliet Arsenal, when recently at Washington read a paper on a contrivance devised by him to protect wounds received in battle. The arrangement is called "Bontecou's Soldiers' Packet for First Wound Dressing," and will be further heard of when certain preliminaries are completed.

The Omaha Bee, referring to the departure of Capt. C. A. H. McCauley, U. S. A., for Chicago, says: "The Captain has filled the position he now relinquishes in Omaha for the past four years and with so much ability, so much kindness to subordinates and associates, that his departure is a source of regret to all who have been associated with him in the performance of his duties. He was the second quartermaster at the present depot, succeeding Major Furey, and admirably accomplishing what that gentleman had commenced. The captain had not expected to be ordered to Chicago, but the disappointment will be appreciated, especially because his family resides there."

GENERAL J. P. HAWKINS, U. S. A., is expected at Boston for duty early in January.

GENERAL RUFUS SEXTON, U. S. A., will spend most of the winter in Washington, D. C.

LIEUTENANT M. M. MAXON, 10th U. S. Cav., is spending the winter at Jacksonville, Ill.

LIEUTENANT WILLIS WITTON, 21st U. S. Inf., has rejoined at Fort Du Chesne, Utah, from a trip to Omaha.

LIEUTENANT D. N. McDONALD, 4th U. S. Cav., on leave from Fort McDowell, Ariz., is visiting at Nashville, Tenn.

LIEUTENANT J. A. BALDWIN, 9th U. S. Inf., has taken charge of recruiting matters at Fort McDowell, Arizona.

MAJOR J. B. PARKE, 16th U. S. Infantry, lately visiting at Parkersburg, Pa., will soon return to Fort Concho, Tex.

LIEUTENANT J. A. MANEY, 15th U. S. Infantry, has left Fort Buford, Dakota, for the East, to be absent until early in February.

CAPTAIN R. L. HOKIE, Corps of Engineers, U. S. A., of Montgomery, Ala., who has been suffering from malarial fever, is improving.

CAPTAIN H. J. NOWLAN, 7th U. S. Cavalry, was to leave Fort Meade, Dak., the latter part of this week on a three months' visit to the East.

LIEUTENANT EDWARD LLOYD, 11th U. S. Infantry, will leave Fort Randall, Dak., next week on a visit of two months to friends in the East.

LIEUTENANT S. C. MILLS, 12th U. S. Inf., and Mrs. Mills arrived in New York from Europe on Monday. They will shortly go to Fort Sully, Dakota.

LIEUTENANT D. D. JOHNSON, 5th U. S. Artillery, was expected in St. Louis this week to spend the Christmas holidays with relatives in that city.

ADJUTANT J. F. GUILFOYLE, 9th U. S. Cav., whose marriage to Miss Susie B. Lane, daughter of Colonel Lane, will soon take place, has arrived at Carlisle, Penn.

COLONEL J. M. WHITTEMORE, U. S. A., commandant of the Watervliet Arsenal, visited New York City this week, making his headquarters at the Grand Hotel.

REGIMENTAL QUARTERMASTER T. W. JONES, 10th U. S. Cavalry, for some time past on duty at Fort Apache, Arizona, has reported to Gen. Grierson at Santa Fe for duty.

LIEUTENANT THOS. RIDGWAY, 5th U. S. Artillery, lately relieved from college duty at Garden City, Long Island, now goes to Willet's Point for a six months' tour of torpedo instruction.

COL. E. J. STRANG, U. S. A., retired, leaves Iselin, N. J., next week for New Orleans, La., at which place he will spend the winter. He will make the journey by sea, via the Cromwell Line.

CAPTAIN H. P. PERRINE, 6th U. S. Cavalry, on sick leave at Trenton, N. J., was expected at Governor's Island to be examined by the Retiring Board, of which Major Gen. Schofield is President.

CAPTAIN H. C. WARD, 16th U. S. Infantry, lately visiting at Worcester, Mass., will spend the Christmas holidays in the East and return to Fort McIntosh, Texas, towards the end of January.

In the spring the Duc d'Orleans, eldest son of the Comte de Paris, who is now at Sandhurst, is to leave England for New York, on a tour round the world, which is to include visits to Japan, China and India.

2d LIEUTENANT R. M. BLATCHFORD, 11th U. S. Infantry, becomes 1st lieutenant by the dismissal of Lieut. B. F. Handforth, and, as a consequence, changes base from Fort Niagara to Madison Barracks, N. Y.

CAPTAIN A. H. APPEL, Assistant Surgeon, U. S. A., at present visiting in Montreal, will shortly go to Chicago for duty at the camp at Highwood, near that city. Dr. H. O. Perley, now on duty at the camp, will return to Fort Wayne, Mich.

CAPTAIN CROSBY P. MILLER, Assistant Quartermaster, U. S. A., is to be congratulated that his first station under his new appointment is to be so pleasant a one as Willet's Point, N. Y. H. Capt. Miller was to bid good bye this week to his many friends at Fort Adams and Newport, and start for Willet's Point.

CAPTAIN E. L. ZALINSKI, 5th U. S. Artillery, returned to Fort Hamilton, N. Y. H., this week from a visit to Annapolis, Md. He has been heartily congratulated from all sides on his promotion by the retirement of Capt. Van Reed, which gives him the command of the battery of his regiment stationed at Fort Wadsworth, Staten Island.

MAJOR EDWIN BENTLEY, Post Surgeon, Little Rock Barracks, and Mrs. Bentley, says the Arkansas Gazette, "entertained the Social Reading Club on Thursday evening in a most delightful manner. In spite of the war among the elements outside, their elegant quarters at the United States Arsenal were warm and brilliant, and a most liberal and general hospitality was extended by this popular host and hostess to the many members and guests present. After reading the play of 'Hamlet' with a full and admirable cast, the guests were treated to a rare feast of the good things; each plate garnished with a souvenir bouquet of choice flowers."

The Evening Star, of Washington, in referring to the appointment of Major W. P. Huxford as clerk of the Senate Committee on Military Affairs, which we announced last week, says: "Major Huxford is well known in Washington, where he has resided for many years. He was at one time officially connected with the Court of Commissioners of Alabama Claims, and is familiar with official life at the capital. He has a brilliant Army record. He entered the Service in 1861 as a private in the 4th Michigan Infantry. Later he enlisted as a private in the 162d New York Infantry, where he was made sergeant major, and soon after promoted to be captain. After the war he was appointed a captain in the Regular Army, and in 1868 he was placed on the retired list for disability from wounds."

CAPTAIN CHAS. H. GREENE, 17th U. S. Infantry, has resumed duty with his company at Fort D. A. Russell, Wyo.

2d LIEUTENANT W. H. WASSELL, 9th Infantry, is visiting at Pittsburg, Pa., on leave from Whipple Barracks, Arizona.

GENERAL J. C. ROBINSON, U. S. A., of Binghamton, N. Y., registered at the Coleman House, New York City, on Tuesday.

GENERAL GEO. D. RUGGLES, U. S. A., on leave from San Antonio, registered at the New York Hotel, New York City, on Monday.

LIEUTENANT R. T. EMMET, 9th U. S. Cavalry, and Mrs. Emmet will spend a portion of December and January in New York City and vicinity.

LIEUTENANT W. R. HAMILTON, 5th U. S. Art., contributes to the November number of "Ours" some "Suggestions to Non-Coms," a practical talk on "Saluting and Courtesy."

GENERAL ELY S. PARKER, of distinguished service during the war, and formerly an officer of the 2d U. S. Cavalry, was elected Senior Vice Commander Reno Post G. A. R., New York City, on Tuesday.

The three Americans who have been honored by the Turkish Sultan with the decoration of Commander of the Mejidie are General Lew Wallace, "Sunset" Cox, and, quite recently, Dr. Morris B. Henry, of New York.

GENERAL FORNEY, of Alabama, who has just begun his seventh consecutive term in the House, is a veteran of two wars. He fought as a lieutenant under the Stars and Stripes in the war with Mexico, and won his title of General fighting under the stars and bars of the late Southern Confederacy.

LIEUTENANT SAMUEL R. JONES, 4th U. S. Artillery, bade good bye to friends at Fort Trumbull and New London this week and left for Fort Adams, R. I., to report to Col. Best for duty as regimental quartermaster. He will also take charge of quartermaster matters at the post of Fort Adams. His appointment promotes 2d Lieut. Chas. L. Phillips to 1st lieutenancy. Lieut. Phillips was graduated in 1881 and is at present on college duty at Orono, Me.

COLONEL GUY V. HENRY, U. S. A., delivered an excellent lecture at Omaha, Dec. 7, on "Indians and Indian Campaigns." He told of Indian life, religion and superstitions, describing notable campaigns in the Dept. of the Platte, and, upon being pressed, told of the wound he received in the battle of the Rosebud and of his long ride of 500 miles before he could reach home. A large audience was present and listened with deep interest, and several expressed a wish to have the lecture repeated in a larger place.

At the last session of the Georgia Legislature a bill was passed making provision for the awarding of various sums to wounded Confederate veterans. The list of those applying for such assistance has been surprisingly large, including Gen. James Longstreet, now residing at Gainesville, who wrote for the small amount allowed for wounds in the arm. The wound has prevented him from engaging in any laborious pursuits since the war. He is close on to seventy years of age, broken down physically and in moderate circumstances.

Referring to the recent trial of two officers of the 9th U. S. Cavalry, at Fort DuChesne, the result of which we publish this week under the regimental heading, the Kansas City Times says: "It is reported that the cause of this court martial was the attack made upon the mental condition of Col. J. F. Randlett, the post commandant. Outside of the disaffected group of officers Col. Randlett is regarded as possessing an extremely level head, and the failure to make anything out of the attempt to impeach his sanity on the occasion of the court-martial is viewed as a just defeat."

According to the Atlanta Constitution the presentation of liquors to "Jeff" Davis at Macon was after this fashion. Some of the chief citizens of that town determined to give the old rebel a "fitting memento" of Macon hospitality. So, making up a purse of \$500, they sent it to Park and Tilford, of New York, with instructions to send an assortment of their finest liquors. It came in a mahogany case, no two bottles, except those containing champagne, alike, and the Maconites who were allowed to see the inside of the case say that a sad, so-near-and-yet-so-far feeling rather got the better of them. One citizen is authority for the statement that as the train pulled out of the depot, "Old Jeff" could be seen patting the mahogany case lovingly.

BEGINNING his eighty-third year, M. Ferdinand de Lesseps can look around and see but very few men of anything like equal eminence who are as old as he. The German Emperor is 80; Dr. Dollinger is 88; Moltke and Bancroft, the historian, are each 87; Kossuth is 85; and Professor Owen is 83. Of sovereigns, the Pope is 77, and King William of the Netherlands is well on in his seventy-first year. Of statesmen, Mr. Gladstone is 79, Mr. Bright is 76, Prince Bismarck is 72, M. Jules Grevy is 74, M. Leon Say and M. Leroyer are each 71, Lord Selborne is 75 and Lord Granville is 72. Of Generals, MacMahon is 79, Leboeuf is 78, and Bazaine and Caldini are each 76. M. Chevreul is fairly started upon his one hundred and second year.

W. A. CROFFUT, in an account in the Buffalo News of a recent interview with Lieut.-Gen. Sheridan, says: "I told him I called to find out something about his boyhood. 'The trouble is,' he replied, 'there's another fellow who wants to get the very same facts you are after and he has precedence. He is getting together things about my boyhood at this very time for publication, though I doubt if he estimates the value of them as highly as you do.' 'Ah!' I exclaimed, recognizing the situation. 'Sorry I wasn't earlier.' 'It might not have made much difference,' he murmured; 'the fact is I myself am your rival in this business. I am writing my autobiography, you know, and I'm just now digging up my boyhood days. If it were otherwise I should be glad to oblige you. Beautiful day, isn't it? Lovely day! Lovely day!' and he bowed me out. I felt like kicking the bronze hero of Five Forks off the onyx pedestal in the bay window, but I drew a firm rein upon my emotions and slunk silently out without committing any depredations."

COLONEL E. R. WARNER, U. S. A., was visiting in Chicago last week.

ASSISTANT SURGEON B. BARNETT has arrived at Vicksburg, Miss., from Radnor, Pa.

CAPTAIN E. O. GIBSON, U. S. A., retired, has gone to Santa Barbara from Los Angeles, Cal.

CAPTAIN E. S. EWING, U. S. A., retired, has arrived at Des Moines, Iowa, from Wellesley, Mass.

COLONEL HORACE BROOKS, U. S. A., retired, is in New York this week from Baltimore, Md.

COLONEL R. S. GRANGER, U. S. A., retired, has arrived at Warrenton, Va., from Zanesville, Ohio.

2D LIEUTENANT E. P. LAWTON, 13th Infantry, has left Fort Wingate, N. M., for a short European trip.

CAPTAINS J. A. AUGUR, 5th Cavalry, and Colon Augur, 2d Cavalry, were in Chicago Dec. 13 visiting relatives.

LIEUT.-COL. C. A. REYNOLDS, U. S. A., retired, has arrived in Washington from Vancouver Barracks, Wash. Ter.

MAJOR J. P. BRUA, U. S. A., retired, lately at Walla Walla, W. T., has returned to 219 Front street, Harrisburg, Pa.

2D LIEUTENANT E. LLOYD, 15th Infantry, on leave from Fort Randall, Dak., is at 215 A street, S. E., Washington, D. C.

CARDS are out for the wedding of Miss Emilie, daughter of General Vogdes, U. S. A., to Dr. Howard Forde Hansell.

ASSISTANT SURGEON W. B. BANISTER, lately relieved from Fort Lowell, Ariz., will soon arrive at Fort Wingate, N. M.

2D LIEUTENANT J. Y. M. BLUNT, 5th Cavalry, on leave from Fort Elliott, Texas, is in Washington visiting relatives and friends.

LIEUTENANT M. O. HOLLIS, 4th Infantry, was at Army Headquarters, Chicago, this week, en route to his home, on leave of absence.

CAPTAIN E. C. CLARKE, U. S. A., retired, has arrived in Washington from New York, and is stopping at 216 New Jersey ave., S. E.

COLONEL J. H. KING, U. S. A., retired, has arrived in Washington from Detroit, Mich., and is stopping at 1720 H street, Washington, U. C.

BRIGADIER-GENERAL R. MURRAY, U. S. A., retired, has changed his address from S. E. Hoffman street to 208 Park avenue, Baltimore, Md.

2D LIEUTENANT L. W. CORNIER, 5th Cavalry, on leave from Fort Supply, Ind. Ter., is visiting his home folks at 461 4th st., Boston, Mass.

COLONEL A. CHAMBERS, 17th Infantry, has arrived at San Antonio, Tex., from Omaha, Neb., where he has been spending a portion of his leave.

CAPTAIN H. B. BRISTOL, U. S. A., retired, has returned to his home, 15 Howard street, Detroit, Mich., from a visit to Walkerville, Canada.

ASSISTANT SURGEON J. W. BUELL has arrived at Fort Smith, Ark., from Carmel, N. Y., where he has been spending the greater portion of his leave.

1ST LIEUT. E. P. BREWER, 7th Cav., has arrived at Long Meadow, Mass., from Youngstown, O. He will spend two excursions granted him at the former place.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. GREEN, 2d Cavalry, has temporarily relinquished command of Boise Bks., Idaho, to spend a short leave with friends in Philadelphia, Pa.

MAJOR C. W. FOSTER, U. S. A., was expected to arrive at Fort Leavenworth the latter part of this week for duty as Chief Quartermaster on General Merritt's staff.

MR. HENRY SWEETSER DEWEY, eldest son of Maj. Israel Dewey, U. S. Army, has been elected a companion of the Massachusetts Commandery of the Loyal Legion.

LIEUT. VICTOR LINDHOLM, of the Royal Danish Cavalry, arrived in Washington on Tuesday to take charge of the instruction department of the new Riding Academy.

A HALF-LENGTH portrait of Lieut. Gen. Sheridan, by Mrs. Leonora Darragh, of Philadelphia, is on exhibition at the War Department. It is one of the three portraits which have been presented to West Point Military Academy by Mr. George W. Childs of Philadelphia.

The Kansas City Times, referring to the recent dismissal of Lieut. B. F. Handforth, 11th U. S. Inf., says: "Lieutenant Handforth was a member of the first class from 1881 to 1883 of the Fort Leavenworth school, and stood well in all the branches taught. He would attend church and Sunday school regularly and the good people of the post quite frequently pointed him out to the student officers as an exemplary young man. During his two years' station here he married a young lady from St. Louis by the name of Hunter. She was the belle of the garrison after her arrival, as her beauty in face and figure clearly entitled her to be. Mrs. Handforth was a fine equestrienne and husband and wife were almost daily out riding over the country. It was not long until Mrs. Handforth had many admirers among the young officers, which seemed to arouse a jealousy in Handforth's mind, and whether he had come to suspicion of his wife's faithfulness or not his treatment of her thereafter was outrageous and often gave rise to the remarks why he wasn't brought up for it. He was residing in the upper story of one of the West end buildings. There he would lock the door on himself and wife, take down the Scriptures, select such portions as would treat on adultery and read them to Mrs. Handforth. He would beat her and afterward keep her locked up in her room while he was about the garrison attending to his duties with a long face, playing the innocent young man. Mrs. Handforth left him here, returning to St. Louis, when she joined him at Fort Sully, Dak., where not long after a separation took place. He has since married again and his conduct under the circumstances is indeed unaccountable."

CAPTAIN W. E. VAN REED, U. S. A., retired, has left Staten Island for San Francisco, Cal.

THE address of F. J. A. Darr, late Lieutenant 12th U. S. Infantry, is El Porvenir, Guatemala.

GENERAL D. G. SWAIN, U. S. A., registered at the Gilsey House, New York City, on Wednesday.

LIEUT.-COL. A. J. DALLAS, U. S. A., retired, has gone from San Antonio, Texas, to Zellwood, Fla.

CAPTAIN A. H. NAVE, U. S. A., retired, has arrived at San Antonio, Texas, from Bearden, Tenn.

MAJOR T. C. H. SMITH, U. S. A., retired, has changed his address to Nordhoff, Cal., from Santa Barbara.

MAJOR H. G. THOMAS, Pay Dept., has changed his address from Sacarappa to 69 High street, Portland, Me.

CAPTAIN J. VAN R. HOFF, assistant surgeon, U. S. A., left Fort Reno early in the week on a month's visit East.

MAJOR G. W. CANDEE, paymaster, U. S. A., left Helena, Montana, this week for the East on a fortnight's leave.

1ST LIEUT. THOS. CRUSE, 6th Cavalry, lately promoted, is spending his leave at his old home in Owensboro, Ky.

1ST LIEUT. C. W. TAYLOR, R. Q. M., 9th Cavalry, on leave from Fort Robinson, Neb., is at 140 Noble street, Brooklyn, N. Y.

The following Army officers stationed at Chicago recently enjoyed an excursion on the Wagner Limited vestibule train, a rival of the Pullman Limited: Gen. Bingham, Col. Barr, Col. Towle, Majors Handbury and Smith, Capt. McCauley and Lieut. Reade.

LIEUT. J. M. CARSON, Jr., 5th U. S. Cav., was married at Fort Leavenworth, Dec. 14, to Miss Margaret Sumner, daughter of Maj. E. V. Sumner, 5th Cav., and niece of Maj. S. S. Sumner, 8th Cav. The ceremony was performed in the post chapel, Chaplain Barry officiating. The officers and ladies of the post were present in force, and the scene was a brilliant one. Lieut. John Little, 24th U. S. Inf., was "best man," and the bridesmaids were Miss Addie V. Carson, sister of the groom, and Miss V. A. Long, daughter of the late Gen. Long, who was Gen. Lee's military secretary. After the wedding tour the married couple go to Fort Reno.

At a meeting of officers of the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps, held at the Ebbitt House, Washington, Dec. 3, the following named were elected as permanent officers and Executive Committee of the Army and Navy Assembly and German Club: President, Lieut.-Gen. P. H. Sheridan, U. S. A.; Vice-President, Commo. W. S. Schley, U. S. N.; Secretary, Lieut. W. M. Irwin, U. S. N.; Treasurer, Lieut. Wm. Crozier, U. S. A.; Executive Committee: Major J. C. Post, U. S. A., 715 H street; Capt. G. S. Anderson, U. S. A., Fort Myer, Va.; Lieut. J. D. Barrette, U. S. A., Washington Bks.; Surg. A. F. Price, U. S. Navy, 1832 New York ave.; Asst. Engr. M. Bevington, U. S. N., 1221 G street; Lieut. Geo. Barnett, U. S. M. C., U. S. Navy-yard; Asst. Naval Constr. L. Nixon, U. S. N., 1105 G street. The committee meet each and every Sunday. Any officer stationed or residing within the District of Columbia who desires to attend entertainments of the Club must become a member for the entire season for \$20. Non-resident officers and citizens whose applications may be approved, may purchase cards of admission at the rate of \$7 for each entertainment. Members and their families, and guests actually domiciled with members shall be entitled to cards of admission. In addition, fifty special invitations may be issued for each entertainment of the Club. The first entertainment of the club will be given on the evening of Monday, Jan. 16, 1888; the remaining ones on the evenings of Jan. 30 and Feb. 13. The Secretary's address is: Bureau of Equipment and Recruiting, Navy Department, Washington; or, the Windsor.

ENSIGN JOHN B. BERNADOU is at 1340 N St., Washington, D. C., awaiting orders for a tour of shore duty.

REAR ADMIRAL EDWARD SIMPSON, retired, has returned to Washington, and is stopping at 825 Vermont Ave.

LIEUT. EDWARD D. TAUSIG, recently detached from the training ship Jamestown, is stopping at 2905 Pennsylvania Ave.

THE address of Assistant Naval Constructor Jos. H. Lunnard, while awaiting assignment to duty, is care Linnard and Gibbs, Philadelphia, Pa.

ASST. NAVAL CONSTRUCTOR J. J. WOODWARD, has arrived in Washington and, pending orders from the Navy Department, is stopping at 1925 N St.

THE following officers are attached to the U. S. S. Chicago: Captain, H. B. Robeson; lieutenants, J. A. H. Nickels, J. J. Hunker and H. T. Monahan; chief engineer, J. W. Thomson; P. A. engineers, H. Webster, J. H. Perry, R. R. Leitch, H. E. Frick and C. C. Kleckner; asst. engineers, G. E. Burd, F. C. Bowers and G. R. Salisbury.

Mrs. BOYD, wife of Capt. Robert Boyd, U. S. N., in command of the flagship Richmond, has recently moved, with her family, into very pleasant apartments at 169 West 49th street, corner of 7th avenue, New York, where they expect to remain during the winter and spring. The presence of the Richmond at the Brooklyn Navy-yard for a more or less extended period at the present time is quite an agreeable episode for Capt. Boyd under the circumstances.

CHIEF ENGINEER MOORE has received the official notification of his promotion to the relative rank of captain as the result of the retirement, on Dec. 1, of Chief Engr. W. S. Slamm. Chief Engr. Moore is in charge of the Department of Steam Engineering at the New York Navy-yard, having been assigned to that duty under date of Jan. 17, 1887. This officer entered the service as a 3d Assistant Engineer, May 21, 1853, was promoted to 2d Assistant, June 27, 1855, to 1st Assistant Engineer, July 21, 1858, and received his commission as Chief Engineer, under date of Aug. 5, 1861. He will probably remain in his present station until 1900.

LIEUT.-COMDR. JOHN F. MERRY, lately from the Marion, has gone to Somerville, Mass.

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER G. C. REITER, U. S. N., has left Norfolk, Va., on a month's leave.

COMMANDER H. F. PICKING, U. S. N., visited New York City this week, registering at the Everett House.

ENGR.-IN-CHIEF G. W. MELVILLE, U. S. N., came on from Washington to New York this week to spend a few days.

LIEUTENANT J. N. P. HEMPHILL, U. S. N., arrived at Norfolk, Va., early in the week for duty on the Jamestown.

COMMODORE C. W. PICKERING, U. S. Navy, registered at the Murray Hill Hotel, New York City, early in the week.

LIEUTENANT T. G. FILLETTE, U. S. Marine Corps, much to the regret of his many friends in Pensacola, will shortly leave there for New York to join the Nipsic.

THE engagement of Miss Nellie Hunt, daughter of the late Minister to Russia and Secretary of the Navy, and Mr. William Emory, of Philadelphia, is announced.

THE Japanese Vice-Minister of Marine, Viscount Kabayama, and party, who have been visiting the United States, sailed last Saturday for England on the Etruria.

PROFESSOR EDWARD S. HOLDEN, of the University of California, formerly of the Navy, will briefly analyze in "Scribner's" for January a recent French book which throws a new light on Balzac.

LIEUTENANT WALTER MCLEAN, U. S. Navy, was married Dec. 8 at Towanda, Pa., to Miss Emma Bowne Jarvis, daughter of Asabel A. Jarvis, Esq. The ceremony was performed at Christ Church, many friends and relatives being present.

THE accounts of Pay Inspector Caswell, pay agent at New York, have been suspended to the amount of \$799, the sum paid to A. P. Boller and Co., in November, 1883, in excess of the appropriation for building an iron pier at Key West, Fla., and charged by direction of Rear Adm. Nichols, to the "contingent appropriation." The Second Comptroller says that Pay Inspector Caswell is in no way at fault in this transaction and that while the suspension against him must stand, Congress should be asked to relieve him of the charge, inasmuch as Rear Adm. Nichols, who authorized the payment, being dead, there is no officer who can properly be charged with the expenditure.

LIEUT. W. M. IRWIN, U. S. N., was married Dec. 13, at Washington, D. C., to Miss Bessie Barbour, the ceremony being performed at the residence of the bride's parents. Only the family circle and a dozen or two intimate friends and brother officers of the groom were present. The groom wore his uniform, as did all the other Navy officers present, adding very much to the brilliancy of the gathering. Mrs. Barbour with her eldest daughter, also a bride, the wife of Chief Engineer McArthur, U. S. N., and Mrs. B. B. Lockwood received the guests. In the evening the married couple left for a wedding journey. They will be back for Christmas and will have apartments for the winter at the Windsor.

THE Brooklyn Standard-Union says: "The opinion among Naval men still continues almost unanimous that the Secretary has Pay Inspector Stevenson in a bad corner, and that despite his air of bravado Stevenson is badly frightened." Mr. Whitney, said an official to-day, "would never have ordered this inquiry had he not been sure that Stevenson had done wrong. All this talk of Stevenson's about there being a conspiracy against him, and his impudent statement that the Secretary wanted to get rid of him in order to put a personal favorite in his place, is worse than nonsense, and if the accused officer was not clean gone daft he would not dare to talk in this way; he will only make it all the worse for himself."

A GRACEFUL act on the part of an officer of the Marion is worthy of mention. It seems the officer in question had been wandering through the old cemetery in Shantung Road, where he came across the graves of some of those who had served in the U. S. Navy in years gone by. The headboards have very much rotted away, and will in the course of a few years entirely disappear, the names on them now being in most cases very difficult to decipher. By diligently following the lines the names were made out, and to perpetuate the memory of the departed officer had erected in the cemetery a Chinese white marble tablet, and on it are cut the names of those whose remains are lying in the cemetery. Some of the deaths date back to 1851, and at the top of the stone are these words: "Erected by an officer of the United States steamship Marion in memory of the following men of war, the headboards originally placed over the graves having become effaced." The stone was put up recently.—North China Daily Times.

THE monument to Asst. Engr. H. S. Eiseffer, U. S. Navy, who was accidentally shot and killed March 23, 1886, has lately been put up at the Naval Cemetery, Annapolis, Md. The fund was managed by Asst. Engr. M. Bennington as Treasurer, and \$245.90 was collected, coming from 109 of his friends in the Service. The largest subscription came from the officers and men of the U. S. S. Monocacy, on which vessel Mr. Eiseffer put in the greater part of his last cruise; and on that vessel he left such a reputation for manly and noble qualities that several sailors who had only heard of him by reputation insisted on contributing. The monument, which is very neat and tasteful, of best selected Italian marble, with bottom base of granite, bears on one face with ordinary cut-in letters the following inscription: "In memory of Harry S. Eiseffer, Assistant Engineer, U. S. Navy, Class of 1879, U. S. N. A. Born June 12, 1855. Died March 23, 1886. This memorial is erected by his friends and classmates." On the opposite face is the last name of the officer in large raised letters. A splendid photograph showing the pretty site upon which the monument stands and a good view of the cemetery and Academy has been taken, copies of which will shortly be presented to the subscribers to the fund.

## THE FIFTIETH CONGRESS.

The standing committees having jurisdiction over matters in which the two Services are interested, are finally organized for the first session of the Fiftyeth Congress, are:

*On Military Affairs*—Hawley, chairman; Cameron, Manderson, Stewart, Davis, Cockrell, Hampton, Walshall, and Bate.

*On Naval Affairs*—Cameron, chairman; Hale, Riddleberger, Stanford, Chandler, McPherson, Butler, Blackburn, and Gray.

*On Appropriations*—Allison, chairman; Dawes, Plumb, Hale, Farwell, Beck, Cockrell, Call, and Gorman.

*On Claims*—Spooner, chairman; Hoar, Mitchell, Stewart, Quay, Jones of Arkansas, Wilson of Maryland, and Pasco.

*On Pensions*—Davis, chairman; Blair, Sawyer, Paddock, Quay, Wilson of Maryland, Turpie, and Blodgett.

*On Coast Defences*—Dolph, chairman; Cameron, Hawley, Hiscok, McPherson, Hampton, and Reagan.

The organization of the Military Committee, it will be seen, differs somewhat from last year. Senator Hawley, who stood No. 5 in the list of membership of the old committee, becomes chairman, and Messrs. Stewart, Davis, and Bate take the places respectively of Sewell, Harrison, and Bate. Two of the new members, Messrs. Bate and Davis, have seen Army service, the former as a private throughout the Mexican war, serving in Louisiana and Tennessee regiments, and as private, captain, colonel, brigadier, and major-general in the Confederate service; the latter as 1st lieutenant in the 28th Wisconsin Infantry, 1862-4.

The Naval Committee stands as it did last year, with the exception of Senator Gray, who is assigned to the vacancy, vice Whitthorne, and Senator Chandler, who takes a place specially vacated for him by Senator Dawes.

But one new Senator is placed on the Appropriation Committee—Mr. Farwell, who is assigned to the Mahone vacancy.

The Committee on Military and Naval Affairs will not meet and organize before next week. The meeting days will be Tuesdays and Wednesdays respectively, as heretofore. It is not likely that either of the committees will get down to work until a week or two after the holidays, though, if the recess Army and Navy nominations reach the Senate by next meeting day, they may be acted upon shortly after January 1.

Among the amendments to the rules offered in the House this week is one submitted by Mr. McCreary, requiring that all general appropriation bills should be reported to the House within sixty days after the appointment of the standing committees at the first session, and within forty days after the commencement of the second session. For the sake of Congressmen themselves who are anxious to be relieved of Congressional cares as early as possible, and for the benefit of the country at large, it is to be hoped that this motion will prevail.

The appointment of the sub-committees of the Senate appropriation committees will shortly be announced by Chairman Allison. The sub-committee on the Army appropriation bill last year was Logan, Plumb and Gorman, until the death of the former, when Mr. Allison took his place. The latter also took the place of Senator Logan on the sub-committee in charge of the naval appropriation bill. As Mr. Allison has as much as he can do on other sub-committees, it is as probable that he will detail the new member, Senator Farwell, to take his place on these two committees, in which event the sub-committee in charge of the Army appropriation bill will consist of Senators Plumb, (chairman), and Farwell and Gorman, and the Messrs. Hale, (Chairman) and Farwell and Beck on the naval appropriation bill.

The annual statement exhibiting the expenditures at the Springfield Armory, and of the arms, components of arms, etc., altered and repaired at that armory during the year ending June 30, 1887, was laid before the two houses of Congress, Dec. 12.

Other communications were submitted by the Secretary of War as follows:

The report of the Chief of Ordnance of test of iron and steel and other materials at the Watertown Arsenal; statement of contracts by the War Department and its Bureau for the past fiscal year; reports from the Quartermaster-General showing purchases of supplies for the Army for the past fiscal year; reports of inspection of money accounts of disbursing officers by Inspector-General's Dept.

Petitions and memorials were presented in the Senate this week:

From 118 citizens of Clay Centre, Kas., urging the passage of a bill granting to all who served in the late war below the rank of commissioned officer in the Army and Navy who have been honorably discharged, bounty at the rate of \$3.33 per month, deducting therefrom all bounty and prize money heretofore paid.

From Capt. Wm. Fletcher, U. S. A., asking the passage of a bill to retire him with rank of Major.

Petitions were presented in the House this week: From Chamber of Commerce at San Francisco recommending an appropriation for repairing the U. S. war ship *Hartford*.

Resolutions submitted by Mr. Mitchell were adopted by the Senate on the 13th inst., directing that the Secretary of War report to the Senate what action, if any, has been taken by the Department relative to the removal of troops from and the abandonment of Fort Canby, in Washington Territory, and that such report be accompanied with copies of any and all reports and recommendations of military officers and others, if any, recommending such removal and abandonment. Also the size, character, and condition of the Fort Canby military reservation, and when and in what manner such military reservation was created, the nature, extent, and value of the present improvements on such reservation; report to be accompanied by such recommendation as the Secretary of War may deem proper in reference to the future occupation or disposition of such reservation.

The first meeting of the Senate Committee on Military Affairs has been called for Tuesday, Dec. 13.

## BILLS INTRODUCED—SENATE.

The following are among the bills introduced into the Senate this far:

S. 6. Mitchell. Providing a commission of three Naval officers to select a site for a Naval station on the Pacific.

S. 19, Mr. Dolph. That the Secretary of War be, and hereby is, authorized to make contracts with responsible steel manufacturers, after suitable advertisements, to continue not less than 30 days, in newspapers most likely to reach the manufacturers addressed, for the supply of rough-bored, rough-turned and tempered steel in various suitable for heavy ordnance adapted to modern warfare, and steel, finished, for armor and other Army purposes, in quantity not to exceed 10,000 gross tons, in quality and dimensions conforming to specifications, subject to inspection and tests at each stage of manufacture, and including all the parts of each calibre specified: *Provided*, That no money shall be expended except for steel accepted and delivered; that each bidder shall contract to erect in the United States a suitable plant, including the best modern appliances, capable of making all the steel required, and of finishing it, in accordance with the contract, and agree in the case of an ordnance contract to deliver yearly a specified quantity of each calibre, the time of delivery of the smaller calibres to commence at the expiration of not more than 18 months and that of the largest calibres at the expiration of not more than three years from the date of the acceptance of the contract; and that all the forgings shall be manufactured in the United States.

Sec. 2. That the Secretary of War be, and hereby is, authorized to erect at the Frankford Arsenal, near Philadelphia, an Army gun factory, in accordance with the report of the Gun Foundry Board of Dec. 30, 1884, for finishing and assembling the guns adapted to modern warfare, up to and including the largest approved sizes, and for the manufacture of gun carriages and ordnance equipment for the Army, at a cost not to exceed \$1,000,000.

Sec. 3. That for the purposes of the foregoing sections the sum of \$8,000,000 is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to be available during six years from Jan. 1, 1887.

Sec. 4. That for the purpose of the construction of fortifications and other works of coast defence, such as masonry and earthwork foundations for turrets, casemates and magazines, submarine mines and galleries, exclusive of armor, in accordance with the recommendations of the Board on Fortifications or other Defences, appointed by the President of the United States, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved March 3, 1885, \$5,000,000 to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of War, is hereby appropriated.

S. 35, Mr. Dolph. That the assistant surgeons of the Army who were appointed under the act approved July 25, 1866, who still remain assistant surgeons at the passage of this act, and who have, or shall hereafter have, served twenty years as assistant surgeons of the United States Army, shall be nominated and, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, appointed to the office of surgeon with the rank of major. In the order of their present arrangement upon the official Army Register; and said service shall be counted from the date of present commission: *Provided*, That no assistant surgeon shall be promoted under this act who has not been examined and approved by an Army medical board, as required by Section 1172 of the Revised Statutes, or who shall have been found physically disqualified for service by a retiring board convened under existing laws: *And provided further*, That the whole number of officers of the Medical Department shall not be increased by this act.

S. 62, Mr. Dolph. That for the purpose of providing the fortifications and other defences recommended by the Board appointed by the President under the provisions of an act entitled "An act making provisions for fortifications and other works of defence, and for the purpose thereof, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1888, and for other purposes," approved March 3, 1885, for the ports named in the report of the said Board as the ports at which fortifications are most urgently needed, namely: New York, San Francisco, Boston, the lake ports, Hampton Roads, New Orleans, Philadelphia, Washington, Baltimore, Portland, Me., Rhode Island, Narragansett Bay, Key West, Charleston, S. C., Mobile, New London, Savannah, Galveston, Portland, Or., Pensacola, Fla., Wilmington, N. C., San Diego, Cal., Portsmouth, N. H., defences of Cumberland Sound at Fort Clinch, defences of ports of the Kennebec River at Fort Popham, New Bedford, Mass., defences of ports on the Penobscot River, Maine, at Fort Knox, and New Haven, Ct., there be, and is hereby, appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$10,577,800.

Sec. 2. That said appropriation shall be available only as follows:

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1889, \$21,500,000; for each fiscal year thereafter, for the period of eleven years, \$9,000,000, and for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1901, \$5,877,800.

Sec. 3. That said sum shall be expended under the direction of the President for the purpose of providing fortifications and other defences for the ports aforesaid, in accordance with the recommendations of said Board, until Congress shall otherwise provide, and shall be apportioned between said ports in accordance with the consolidated estimate of the cost of said defences found upon page 28 of said report, and the work shall be, as near as may be, commenced at the same time at each of said ports, and shall proceed as rapidly as said annual appropriations will admit of: *Provided*, That if at any time the Secretary of War, upon the advice of the Board of Army officers hereinafter provided for, and with the approval of the President, shall recommend to Congress any changes in the plans for the fortifications of any of said ports, work may be suspended upon the same so far as work is necessary if such changes should be authorized until after the adjournment of Congress, if then in session, and if not then in session, until after the adjournment of the next session thereof, when, if such changes have not been authorized by Congress, work shall be resumed under the plans recommended by said Board.

Sec. 4. The floating batteries and torpedo-boats recommended by said Board shall be constructed under the supervision of the Secretary of the Navy, but the plans and specifications for the same shall first be approved by a Board of not more than ten officers of the Navy, who shall be appointed by the President, and be removable at his pleasure. That all such vessels, except as hereinafter otherwise provided, shall be built by contract, and in the construction of the same all the provisions of the act of August 3, 1886, entitled "An act to increase the naval establishment as to the material for said vessels, their engines, boilers and machinery, the contracts under which they are to be built, the notice of, and proposals for the same, the plans, drawings and specifications therefor, and the method of executing said contracts shall be observed and followed, and said vessels shall be built in compliance with said act, so far as the same relates to vessels constructed under contract, save that in all their parts they shall be of domestic manufacture, and if reasonable bids can be obtained therefor, considering the cost and risk of navigating and transporting the same, if constructed elsewhere, the floating batteries and torpedo-boats intended for use on the Pacific Coast shall be constructed on that coast.

Sec. 5. The guns for the armament of said floating batteries and torpedo-boats shall be fabricated at the gun factory of the United States at the Washington navy-yard, and for the purpose of providing the material for guns and armor for said vessels, the Secretary of the Navy is hereby authorized to make contracts with responsible steel manufacturers, after suitable advertisements, to continue not less than thirty days in newspapers most likely to reach the manufacturers addressed, for the supply of rough-bored, rough-turned and tempered steel in forms suitable for heavy ordnance, adapted to modern warfare, and steel, finished, for armor, and other Army purposes, in quantity not less than 10,000 gross tons, in quality and dimensions conforming to specifications, subject to inspection and tests at each stage of manufacture, and in the case of ordnance including all the parts of each calibre specified: *Provided*, That no money shall be expended except in pay-

ment for steel accepted and delivered; that each bidder shall contract to erect in the United States a suitable plant, including the best modern appliances, capable of making all the steel required, and of finishing it, in accordance with the contract, and agree in the case of an ordnance contract to deliver yearly a specified quantity of each calibre, the time of delivery of the smaller calibres to commence at the expiration of not more than 18 months and that of the largest calibres at the expiration of not more than three years from the date of the acceptance of the contract; and that all the forgings shall be manufactured in the United States.

Sec. 6. That the construction of the fortifications and their armament, the fabrication of guns and gun carriages for fortifications, submarine mines, and all such defences except floating batteries and torpedo boats, shall be under the supervision of the Secretary of War, but before any money is expended on any fortifications and other defences, the plans and specifications for the same shall be approved by an Advisory Board of not more than ten officers of the Army, who shall be appointed by the President and be removable at his pleasure. All work as herein provided, so far as practicable, shall be done by contract, the making of which shall be governed by the laws and regulations of the Department in force at the time. The guns shall be fabricated at a gun factory to be established at Frankford Arsenal, Pennsylvania, as hereinafter provided, the material for guns and armor shall be purchased by contract, and for the purpose of providing the same the Secretary of War is hereby authorized to make contracts with responsible steel-manufacturers, after suitable advertisements, to continue not less than 30 days, in newspapers most likely to reach the manufacturers addressed, for the supply of rough-bored, rough-turned, and tempered steel in forms suitable for heavy ordnance adapted to modern warfare, and steel, finished, for armor and other Army purposes, in quantity not less than 10,000 gross tons, in quality and dimensions conforming to specifications, subject to inspection and tests at each stage of manufacture, and including all the parts of each calibre specified: *Provided*, That no money shall be expended except for steel accepted and delivered; that each bidder shall contract to erect in the United States a suitable plant, including the best modern appliances, capable of making all the steel required, and of finishing it, in accordance with the contract, and agree in the case of an ordnance contract to deliver yearly a specified quantity of each calibre, the time of delivery of the smaller calibres to commence at the expiration of not more than 18 months and that of the largest calibres at the expiration of not more than three years from the date of the acceptance of the contract; and that all the forgings shall be manufactured in the United States; and the Secretary of War is hereby authorized to erect at the Frankford Arsenal, near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, an Army gun factory, in accordance with the report of the Gun Foundry Board of Dec. 30, 1884, for finishing and assembling the guns adapted to modern warfare, up to and including the largest approved sizes, and for the manufacture of gun-carriages and ordnance equipment for the Army, at a cost not to exceed \$1,000,000.

S. 30. Dolph. To appropriate \$30,000 for a military survey of Alaska.

S. 31. Dolph. To retire Ord. Sergt. Robt. Williams.

S. 34. Dolph. To abolish the limit on filing claims for compensation for property lost in the military service when such loss is a matter of official record.

S. 45. Dolph. To allow Gen. J. C. Duane, U. S. A., \$848 lost by forgery.

S. 71. Harris. To give Rear Admiral S. P. Carter, U. S. N., pay and compensation as R. A. since his promotion.

S. 119. Cameron. To restore Edw. H. Leib, late captain 5th Cavalry.

S. 128. Cameron. To relieve sailors and marines of the U. S. Navy from the obligation to surrender their pensions on entering U. S. homes, and giving \$3 a month pocket money to those not drawing pensions.

S. 131. Cameron. To allow Jabez Burchard, U. S. N., additional pay.

S. 156. Manderson. The amend Section 1,225, R. S., concerning defays of Army officers to educational institutions.

S. 195. Gibson. To establish a navy-yard at Algiers, on the Mississippi.

S. 254. Call. To amend Article 103 of the Articles of War, by adding the following words:

"No person shall be tried or punished by a court-martial for desertion committed more than two years before the arraignment of such person for such offence, unless he shall meanwhile have absented himself from the United States, in which case the time of his absence shall be excluded in computing the period of the limitation: *Provided*, That said limitation shall not begin until the end of the term for which said person enlisted."

S. 255. Cullum. To allow Major D. N. Bush \$7,350.93, of which he was robbed.

S. 262. Hale. To increase the efficiency of the Medical Corps of the Navy.

S. 263. Hale. Providing for bounties to certain American-built vessels.

S. 266. Hale. To require the testing of chains and anchors.

S. 277. Evans. To appoint and retire Ord. Sergt. John Rigner as 2d lieutenant of Infantry.

S. 282. Gibson. To repeal Section 1,218, R. S., which forbids the appointment in the Army of persons who served in the Confederate service.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

## WEST POINT, N. Y.

DECEMBER 15, 1887.

THE officers' hop on Tuesday evening was well attended; besides most of the post people, there were present half a dozen young ladies, among whom were two Misses Milligen, of Philadelphia, guests of Miss Parke; Miss Van Buren, of New Windsor, guest of Miss Alden; Miss Pacheco, daughter of ex-Governor Pacheco, of California, the guest of Mrs. Spencer; Miss Swords, of New Hamburg, who is Mrs. Bass a guest. The music for the tenth dance on the programme, a waltz, was composed by Lieut. Homer, who set the words to notes written on by Lieut. Gordon.

Last Saturday night's cadet's hop was slightly attended, but this was probably on account of the disagreeable rain storm that we had all day.

Hospital Steward Hill, who was ordered to Florida some weeks ago for the benefit of his health, is very sick at his quarters in the Cadet Hospital. When the order came to go South, he was too ill to start, and has been gradually growing worse, his sickness being due to Bright's disease and dropsy.

Lieut. Chamberlain has been ill for several weeks; there is something the matter with his shoulder, the nature of which it is hard to discover. He is now on the road to recovery.

Among the visitors to the post the past week were Col. Roberts, Engrs.; Gen. Burdette, Cav., and Mrs. Borie, 21st Inf.; Lieut. Hestand, 11th Inf., and Mr. Charles F. Lloyd, of the class of 1874, now a resident of Butte City, Montana.

About twelve of the members of the 4th Class have resigned and two have gone on sick leave. Many are looking forward to the approaching examinations with anxious hearts. More than half have marks that are usually called deficient.

Lieut. Dodds has moved to the quarters just vacated by Lieut. Gale, and Lieut. Alvord has taken Lieut. Dodds's house.

Lieut. Newcomb is receiving the congratulations of his friends upon his recent promotion to a 1st lieutenancy.

The correspondent who furnishes "Society News" from West Point and Cornwall for the New York Sunday World makes a new record of it at times. Last week a number of the younger married ladies were mentioned as being present at the officers' hop with "Miss ——" indicating that said young ladies were the daughters of the ladies whose names they follow. In one instance the Miss — mentioned is just five years old, rather a young society belle. The only reliable part is what is copied from the JOURNAL of the week before,

## THE OUTSIDE LINE OF DEFENCE.

THE paper read before the Military Service Institution on Dec. 8, by 1st Lieut. E. M. Weaver, 2d Artillery, was a very interesting and valuable one. The subject was the armament of the outside line in the defence of our sea coast. The author limited himself in the discussion to considering the character, number and location of the heavy guns needed on the outside line of coast defence from the main coast to New York City, and some general remarks as to how the guns needed might be supplied. The following points were made:

1. The function of the outside line of defence is to hold off the most powerful naval guns that can be floated against us behind the most powerful armor to a point beyond the extreme range of these guns from the point to be defended.

2. The resisting capacity of the highest type of modern compound and steel armor, and the extreme ranges of the longest range guns are the fundamental points to be observed and developed in determining this problem.

3. The effect of armor, considered in relation to the shore guns opposed to it, is to increase the effective range of the guns it protects; for such guns may be brought to a point where the resisting capacity of the target just overmatches the projectile energy of the shore guns.

4. Recent experiments go to show that modern first-class steel or compound plates will successfully bear a projectile energy of about 1,500 foot tons per ton of plate. If we consider such ships as the *Trafalgar* and *Nile* as fair samples of the coming heavy battle ship, the 20-in. compound armor they carry will call for a total projectile energy of 55,500 foot tons to overmatch it—assuming the effect of the blow to be limited to a surface area of 10 ft. x 10 ft. (The *Spezia* plates were about 11 ft. x 10 ft.)

5. It seems fair under existing data to assume 18 inch as the maximum calibre gun that is likely to be floated on ships built for general fighting work; such a gun, if of first power measured by existing types, will have a range at 20 deg. elevation of over 17,000 yds. or 10 miles.

6. A cardinal principle of shore fire is, that it ought to be superior in weight to ship fire; this, with an emplacement without motion, should always enable us to enjoy a decided advantage, both as to power and accuracy in a combat with ships. And, whatever increase may occur, our exemption from all restrictions as to weight and space allows us to select that degree of advantage that best suits our conditions, the only limits being that the gun shall be within the manufacturing ability of the time.

7. Under these principles a 20 in. gun is selected to oppose the 18 in. gun that is likely to come against us.

8. Such a gun would be more powerful than Krupp's proposed 150 ton 17.5 in. gun, which is to fire a 3,300 lbs. projectile, or the English proposed 150 ton; the projectile of the 20 in. gun would weigh about 4,500 lbs.

9. The gun could be produced either by Krupp or the Elswick Co., and it is understood that the Hotchkiss Co., of this country, stands ready to make guns of this calibre on the De Bary system.

10. This proposed 20 in. gun would give a total projectile energy of 55,500 foot-tons at 11,800 yds.—six miles—and if mounted on our coast line would give effective protection against bombardment by guns behind 20 in. armor at this range; and reasonable safety could be guaranteed to all seaports of the New England coast to New York—this being as far as the coast was considered.

11. The proposed 16 in. gun of the Fortification Board, granting it a projectile weighing 2,500 lbs.—which is a liberal allowance—and a muzzle velocity of 2,000 feet per second, will not be effective against a plate 20 in. thick such as is above described at one mile. To be exact, the ballistic deduction makes it 1,624 yds.

12. If our coast were fully armed with 16 in. guns, it is within present limits of possibility for ships covered with such armor and carrying 18 in. guns, or even smaller calibres, to stand beyond one mile from the shore and within eight to ten miles of almost any of our seaport cities and fire overland into the city being defended. The 20 in. gun would not only give effective protection as opposed to lack of protection afforded by a 16 in. gun, but it would be cheaper to arm our coast with the larger gun because fewer guns and forts would be needed. The relative numbers may approximately be had by comparing the effective ranges of the two guns against the 20 in. plate, which are as 1,624 is to 11,800, or, say, as 2 is to 12; or since each gun's fire will cover a circular area these effectively guarded areas will be to each other as the squares of these numbers, or (2<sup>2</sup>) (12<sup>2</sup>), or 4:144, or the effective area of the 20 in. gun will be 36 times greater than that of the 16 in. gun. It is not likely that a 20 in. gun would cost more than two 16 in. guns. Under this hypothesis, if our coast could be effectively guarded by the 16 in. gun, it would cost 18 times more than the same work done by a 20 in. gun.

13. It is thought the system of sea coast defence ought to include the closing of Penobscot Bay, and that the coast from this point to Portsmouth, N. H., ought to be considered together as a unit in the scheme.

14. The outside defence of New York on the Sound entrance and all Sound cities would be made from Napatone Point, through Fisher's Island, Great Gull Island, to Gardiner's Point, at the eastern entrance to the Sound. The defence at Throgg's Neck would thus become an interior defence.

15. In supplying guns in the future, and in formulating a policy in this matter, the Government ought to encourage private factors as well as Government factors to produce finished guns as well as the rough parts, and since the lives and reputation of artillerymen hang in time of war upon the effectiveness of the guns as to power as well as accuracy, it is not unreasonable to demand that they be allowed a voice in determining whether weapons are fit for the purposes in hand.

A NAVAL Examining Board, consisting of Rear Admirals Luce and Jewett and Commodore Weaver, has been ordered to meet at the Navy Department Dec. 16, to examine Captain Wm. E. Fitzhugh for promotion to the rank of Commodore.

## OUR SECRETARY OF WAR.

I AM told at the War Department that Secretary Endicott is the hardest worker that the Department has had since the days of Secretary Stanton. He comes to the office at 10 o'clock, stopping at the President's on the way down, and works on through the day until between 3 and 4 in the afternoon, when he leaves his office and carries his work with him to his house. He takes his chief clerk with him, and the two work until 5 or 6 p. m., and during Congressional sessions their work often lasts until 7. When Secretary Endicott reaches the War Department he finds his anteroom full of callers. From 10 until 12 he sees almost everybody who wants to see him, and Senators and Representatives are expected to enter without sending in their cards.

Secretary Endicott has been represented as the soul of red tape, and it has been said that everything that comes in or goes out of his department has to be bound with silk ribbon and sealed with wax upon which is the monogram of Massachusetts. This is a mistake. The Secretary has nothing snobbish about him, and it is his rule in receiving his callers to attend to the business which is before him before taking up other business. If he is engaged on some matter of importance with Gen. Sheridan he gives instruction that he is not at home to ordinary callers until he is through with the thing at issue. He receives, as a rule, all callers who come at the proper hour, and a large part of the present reputation he holds for exclusiveness comes from the story of his trouble with Henry Watterson, which, by the way, has never been truly represented.

Mr. Watterson called at the Department, and when the name came in to the Secretary it was presented to him as H. Wallerson. Mr. Endicott asked his Secretary who H. Wallerson was, and the young man said he had never heard of Wallerson, and he could not amount to very much. Mr. Endicott was busy at the time, and he gave directions that he could not be seen.

Secretary Endicott is said to be very thorough in his Department work. He brings his legal mind to bear on all questions submitted to him, and he uses here the same judicial methods which he practiced on the bench. He looks on all sides of a question before deciding, and he believes in getting all the evidence before he renders a decision. He saves himself as much as he can in his work and believes in getting others to do his work for him. He has his office thoroughly systematized.

His chief clerk, Mr. Tweedle, may be called Endicott's Department secretary. He oversees all matters connected with the Department, settles the minor questions and refers the more important ones to Mr. Endicott. Capt. Taylor is military secretary, and has charge of all matters relating to the Ordnance Department and disbursements, extra duty pay to soldiers, etc.; and Major Asa B. Gardner is legal secretary, and from his former office as Judge-Advocate General is well fitted for this position. Then there is a private secretary in Mr. Hard, a very pleasant gentleman, who looks over his chief's mail and answers part of his letters according to directions, who attends to his callers and who has charge of the anteroom of the Secretary's office. Then there is Adjt.-Gen. Drum, who attends to the personnel of the Army and the duties of the soldiers, and Major Adams, who has charge of the engineering works and river and harbor improvements. In this thorough division of his work Secretary Endicott has been enabled to render very efficient service, and to dispense with the assistant secretary and solicitor, which the other cabinet officers are awarded by Congress.

Secretary Endicott is a man of broad culture and of wide travels. He is a graduate of Harvard university and he has studious habits. He has a good library, keeps up with the current literature and is very fond of the law. As is natural for a man who comes by direct descent from the first governor of Massachusetts, he knows by heart the genealogical trees of the old families of his State. He is full of Massachusetts legendary lore, and he likes to tell stories of the Pilgrim Fathers. He has a good deal of the nature of old John Endicott in him, though he does not resemble him much in features. Secretary Endicott is also a direct descendant of Jacob Crowninshield, who was appointed Secretary of the Navy by President Jefferson on Mar. 3, 1805, and his grand uncle was Benjamin William Crowninshield, Secretary of the Navy under Madison and Monroe. Mrs. Endicott is indirectly a relative of President Cleveland, and she is a first cousin of her husband.

Secretary Endicott lives very nicely at Washington. He has George Pendleton's house on Sixteenth street just above Scott circle and just next to that of Geo. M. Robeson, ex-Secretary of the Navy. The house is a three story red brick with a dash of Queen Anne architecture about it. It has a large lawn surrounding it and it is beautifully finished and elegantly furnished. The three reception rooms on the ground floor are so arranged that they can be thrown into one and they have double doors opening into a hall which is finished in polished oak. Secretary Endicott's workshop at his home is in his library, which is a large room on the second floor, and which is one of the most charming rooms in the house.

FRANK G. CARPENTER, in the *Guardian*.

## THE CANTEN CLUB.

The Canteen Club, N. Y., Dec. 10, elected Gen. Horatio C. King, Capt. Henry Erben, U. S. N., Lt. Thorpe, 5th U. S. Art., and Capt. W. W. Rowley, U. S. V., members, and the following officers: President, Col. Jones, 12th Regt., N. G. S. N. Y.; First Vice-President, Commo. A. K. Benham, U. S. N.; Second Vice-President, Major Jackson, U. S. A.; Treasurer, Capt. Wm. King, 2d Regt., N. G. S. N. Y.; Recording Secretary, E. A. Enterhouser; Corresponding Secretary, F. E. Webb.

## A BRANCH SOLDIERS' HOME.

The Board of Managers of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers has located a branch home on the Pacific Coast, under act of Congress, at Santa Monica, Cal., 14 miles from Los Angeles, on the shore of the Pacific. The people offered as inducement 350 acres of land worth \$300 per acre, and \$100,000 in cash. The climate is perfect. The site overlooks the ocean, is sheltered by mountains, and is easily accessible by railroads.

## THE ARMY.

G. O. 73, H. Q. A., Dec. 10, 1887.

By direction of the Secretary of War, G. O. 63, of 1881, from this office, is revoked, and Par. 1513 of the Regulations (as amended by G. O. 1, of 1885, from this office) is further amended to read as follows:

1513. Proposals will be opened and read aloud at the time and place appointed for the opening, and a record of each proposal shall then and there be made upon an abstract showing fully all essential particulars. If the proposals were received under notice by circular letter, a list of parties to whom the notice was furnished will be filed with the abstract.

By command of Lieutenant General Sheridan:  
R. C. DRUM, Adjt.-Gen.

G. O. 74, H. Q. A., Dec. 12, 1887.

By direction of the Secretary of War, Par. 772 of the Regulations (amended by G. O. 87, of 1884, from this office) is further amended to read as follows:

772. Enlistments will be taken in duplicate. The recruiting officer will send one copy to the superintendent with his monthly return and the other to the depot at the time the recruit is sent there. In cases of soldiers re-enlisted in a regiment, or of regimental recruits, both copies will be sent to regimental headquarters—one copy for file, the other to accompany the regimental recruiting return.

By command of Lieutenant General Sheridan:  
R. C. DRUM, Adjt.-Gen.

PAYMASTER GENERAL'S OFFICE, Dec. 12, 1887.

CIRCULAR LETTER TO OFFICERS OF THE PAY DEPARTMENT. The Circular Letter of this office of Nov. 12, 1887, is revoked, and the following decision of the Second Comptroller, of Dec. 8, 1887, is substituted, viz:

"As I understand it, the circular of the Second Auditor states the rule of the accounting officers to be, that interest on sums not less than five dollars and less than fifty is allowed only from the date of the passage of the act, i. e., March 3, 1883. But such interpretation has not been the rule of the accounting officers in the past, nor, in my opinion, should it be in the future. In my judgment, the amendment of March 3, 1883, was retrospective as to all soldiers, depositors at that time in the service, with whom, upon their death or discharge, settlement would have to be made. And in the future this rule will be followed in the Comptroller's Office, as it has been in the past."

WM. B. ROCHESTER, Paymr. Gen., U. S. A.

CIR. 18, DEPT. OF THE COLUMBIA, Nov. 25, 1887.

A strict observance of orders and regulations governing the Recruiting Service is enjoined upon officers acting as Recruiting Officers in this Department.

No man will be accepted unless such as the Recruiting Officer would be willing to have in his own company.

G. O. 14, DEPT. OF THE PLATTE, Dec. 12, 1887.

The attention of commanding officers and others serving in this Department is invited to the subject of the payment of rewards for the apprehension of deserters, and rewards for the recovery of lost or stolen public animals—such rewards must be paid without any unnecessary delay, and by the Chief Quartermaster of the Department; to accomplish this post commanders will see that the necessary vouchers in proper form are promptly made at the earliest proper moment and forwarded to the Chief Quartermaster of the Department. Circular 35, a. of 1882, from these Headquarters is revoked.

By command of Brig. Gen. Crook:  
SAM'L BRECK, Asst. Adjt.-Gen.

CIRCULAR 14, DEPT. OF ARIZONA, Dec. 3, 1887.

Publishes correspondence between the War and Interior Departments in October, 1887, concerning the employment of the Military force of the U. S. as a posse comitatus for the apprehension of Indians accused of crime.

CIRCULAR 15, DEPT. OF ARIZONA, Dec. 6, 1887.

Calls attention to the frequent applications received for the remission or mitigation of sentences imposed by court-martial in the cases of enlisted men, many of them being forwarded within a very short time after the promulgation of the sentences in orders, and based on substantially similar statements to those submitted by the defence before the court-martial which awarded the sentence, the members of which were acting under an oath to "administer justice, without partiality, favor, or affection."

## STAFF CORPS AND DEPARTMENTS.

## Quartermasters and Subsistence Departments.

Col. Alexander J. Perry, A. Q. M. G., Chief Q. M. of the Dept., will proceed to Benicia Barracks, Cal., on public business (S. O. 95, Dec. 8, D. Cal.).

Capt. A. E. Miltimore, A. Q. M., will proceed to Globe and San Carlos, A. T., on public business (S. O. 129, Dec. 2, D. Ariz.).

Lieut. Col. James M. Moore, D. Q. M. G., will insp. c., e. and garn. equipage at St. Louis, for which Capt. Forrest H. Hathaway, is accountable (S. O., Dec. 10, H. Q. A.).

So much of S. O. 259, Nov. 7, as directs Col. Rufus Saxton, A. Q. M. G., after closing his accounts, etc., to repair to Germantown, is so amended as to direct him to repair instead to his home at Washington, D. C., and await retirement (S. O., Dec. 10, H. Q. A.).

Col. A. J. Perry, A. Q. M. G., will proceed to Benicia Barracks, Cal., on public business. (S. O. 95, Div. Pacific, Dec. 6.)

## Pay Department.

The troops at Fort Lowell, A. T., and San Diego Barracks, Cal., will be paid to Nov. 30, by Major G. E. Glenn, Paymr., at San Diego Barracks, Cal., and by Major G. R. Smith, Paymr., at Fort Lowell, A. T. (S. O. 127, Nov. 29, D. Ariz.).

Major F. S. Dodge, Paymr., will proceed to West Point, N. Y., and pay the troops on muster rolls of Nov. 30 (S. O. 265, Dec. 9, Div. Atlantic).

The following payments will be made on muster of Nov. 30: Major John B. Keefer, Paymr., at Fort Walla Walla. Major John C. Muhlenberg, Paymr., Vancouver Barracks (S. O. 178, Nov. 24, D. Columbia). Major John C. Muhlenberg, Paymr., Vancouver Barracks, will proceed to Portland, Ore. (S. O. 178, Nov. 26, D. Columbia).

Leave for six days, to commence on or about Dec. 15, is granted Major John S. Witchoer, Paymr., Newport Barracks (S. O. 266, Dec. 13, Div. Atlantic).

Leave for fifteen days is granted Major George W. Candee, Paymr., Helena, to take effect about Dec. 18 (S. O. 125, Dec. 8, D. Dakota).

## Medical Department.

Asst. Surg. W. B. Banister will proceed from Fort

Lowell to Fort Wingate, N. M., and report for duty (S. O. 128, Dec. 1, D. Ariz.)

A. A. Surg. L. N. Clark, upon the arrival at Fort Wingate of Asst. Surg. W. B. Banister, will proceed to San Francisco, and report for annulment of contract (S. O. 128, Dec. 1, D. Ariz.)

Leave for one month, to take effect on or about Dec. 12, is granted Capt. J. Van R. Hoff, asst. surg. (S. O. 128, Nov. 30, Dept. Mo.)

1st Lieut. Julian M. Cabell, asst. surg., will report to the C. O., Fort Niobrara, Neb., for duty (S. O., Dec. 9, H. Q. A.)

Lieut. Col. Joseph R. Smith, surgeon, is detailed member of the Army retiring board at St. Paul (S. O., Dec. 9, H. Q. A.)

The C. O., Fort Robinson, Neb., will annul the contract of A. A. Surg. S. H. Knowles, his services being no longer required (S. O. 128, Dec. 7, D. Platte.)

Hospi. Steward Charles H. Dodge, on duty in the office of the attending surgeon, New York City, will proceed to Fort Missoula, and report for duty (S. O., Dec. 13, H. Q. A.)

#### Engineers and Ordnance Departments.

Leave for one month is granted Major William R. Livermore, C. E. (S. O. 57, Dec. 13, C. E.)

1st Lieut. Frederic V. Abbot, C. E., will proceed to Fort Caswell, N. C., on public business (S. O., Dec. 9, H. Q. A.)

Capt. Walter L. Fisk, C. E., will proceed to the following points on public business: Fort Pike, Fort Macomb, Tower Dupre, Tower at Proctorville, and Battery Bienvenue, La. (S. O., Dec. 19, H. Q. A.)

Major Lawrence S. Babbitt, Ord. Dept., is announced as Chief Ordnance officer, Dept. of Texas (S. O. 21, Dec. 7, D. Texas.)

Capt. Marcus W. Lyon, Chief Ord. Officer, Dept. of the Platte, will proceed to Omaha, Neb., on public business (S. O. 127, Dec. 9, D. Platte.)

#### Chaplains.

Chaplain J. B. McCleery is detailed member of the G. C. M., at the Mil. Prison, convoked by S. O. 107 (S. O. 128, Nov. 30, Dept. Mo.)

#### Signal Corps.

Sergt. Elisha R. Brace, Sig. Corps, on duty at Duluth, will be discharged the service of the U. S. (S. O., Dec. 13, H. Q. A.)

1st Class Private Charles H. Coburn, Sig. Corps, on duty at Detroit, will be discharged the service of the U. S. (S. O., Dec. 13, H. Q. A.)

#### THE LINE.

The Stations of Companies not mentioned here will be found by reference to last number of the JOURNAL.

#### 1st Cavalry, Colonel N. A. M. Dudley.

Hdqs., B. D. E. G. and K., Ft. Custer, Mont.; A., Ft. Maginnis, Mont.; J., Ft. Leavenworth, Kas.; F. and H., Ft. Assiniboine, Mont.; M., Camp Sheridan, Wyo.; C and L, Ft. Buford, D. T.

#### 2nd Cavalry, Colonel Nelson B. Sweetser.

Hdqs., B. E. F. G. and I., Ft. Walla Walla, Wash. T.; A and K, Presidio of San Francisco, Cal.; C and M, Ft. Bidwell, Cal.; D, Boise Bks., Idaho; H, Ft. Spokane, Wash. T.; L, Ft. Sherman, Idaho.

The leave for one month granted 2d Lieut. David I. Brainard is extended one month (S. O. 79, Dec. 5, Div. P.)

#### 4th Cavalry, Colonel Chas. E. Compton.

Hdqs., D. F. H. I. and K., Ft. Huachuca, Ariz.; A, E. and L, Ft. Lowell, Ariz.; C and G, Ft. Bowie, Ariz.; M, Ft. McDowell, Ariz.; B, Ft. Myer, Va.

Capt. Alex. Rodgers is relieved as recruiting officer at Fort McDowell, A. T. (S. O. 129, Dec. 2, D. Ariz.)

#### 5th Cavalry, Colonel James F. Wade.

Hdqs., B. C. G. and K., Ft. Reno, Ind. T.; E and H, Ft. Elliott, Tex.; D and L, Ft. Sill, Ind. T.; A, F. and I, Ft. Supply, Ind. T.; M, Ft. Leavenworth, Kas.

Leave for ten days, to commence on or about Dec. 19, is granted Major L. H. Carpenter, Fort Myer, Va. (S. O. 268, Dec. 13, Div. A.)

#### 6th Cavalry, Colonel Eugene A. Carr.

Hdqs., A, C. and H, Ft. Bayard, N. M.; I and K, Ft. Wingate, N. M.; E and F, Ft. Lewis, Colo.; D and L, Ft. Stanton, N. M.; M, Ft. Leavenworth, Kas.; B, Ft. Myer, Va.; G, Ft. Union, N. M.

The leave granted Capt. William Stanton is extended fifteen days (S. O. 128, Dec. 1, D. Ariz.)

Leave for one month, with permission to apply for an extension of one month, is granted Capt. A. R. Chaffee (S. O. 128, Dec. 1, D. Ariz.)

Leave for one month, with permission to apply for an extension of one month, is granted Capt. W. M. Wallace (S. O. 128, Dec. 1, D. Ariz.)

The leave for one month granted Capt. Adna R. Chaffee is extended one month (S. O. 79, Dec. 5, Div. P.)

Capt. Henry P. Perrine will report to Major-Gen. John M. Schofield, president Army Retiring Board at Governor's Island, for examination (S. O., Dec. 9, H. Q. A.)

#### 7th Cavalry, Colonel James W. Forsyth.

Hdqs., C, D, G. and M, Ft. Rder, Kas.; B, F, I, K, and L, Ft. Meade, Dak.; E and H, Ft. Yates, Dak.; A, Ft. Keogh, Mont.

The leave granted 1st Lieut. Edwin P. Brewer is extended two months (S. O., Dec. 14, H. Q. A.)

A furlough for six months is granted 1st Sergt. Louis Baumgartner, Troop A (S. O. 142, Dec. 12, Div. M.)

#### 8th Cavalry, Colonel Elmer Otis.

Hdqs., A, C, D, F, and H, Ft. Davis, Tex.; K, Camp Del Rio, Tex.; M, Camp Pecos Colorado, Tex.; L, Ft. Hancock, Tex.; I, B, and G, Camp Concho, Tex.; E, Camp at Eagle Pass, Tex.

We return thanks to Adjutant C. M. O'Connor for a copy of the latest Roster of Commissioned Officers, 8th Cav., a neat and handy document.

#### 9th Cavalry, Colonel Edward Hatch.

Hdqs., C, F, I, and K, Ft. Robinson, Neb.; A and G, Ft. Niobrara, Neb.; D and H, Ft. McKinney, Wyo.; M, Ft. Washita, Wyo.; B and E, Ft. Du Chene, Utah (Post-office address via Ogden, Utah); L, Ft. Leavenworth, Kas.

Leave for one month, to take effect between Dec. 20 and Jan. 1, with permission to apply for an extension of one month, is granted 1st Lieut. Robert T. Emmet, Fort Niobrara (S. O. 128, Dec. 5, D. Platte.)

Before a G. C. M. at Fort Du Chene, of which Major T. H. Stanton, Paymaster, was president, was tried Capt. Jerauld

A. Olmsted, 9th Cav. Charge—Conduct to the prejudice, etc.—three specifications alleging that he knowingly permitted a sergeant of his troop to live and cohabit with a common prostitute on the military reservation, and after his attention being called to the matter by the post commander did violate the instructions given him, etc. Plea—Not guilty. Finding—Not guilty. And the court does therefore acquit him. The proceedings are approved. The findings on the first specification is also approved. The evidence before the court, in the opinion of the Department Commander, establishes substantially the facts set forth in the second, third, and fourth specifications; he cannot understand on what ground the court could acquit Capt. Olmsted of those specifications and the charge; the findings on those specifications and the charge are, therefore, disapproved. Capt. Olmsted is released from arrest and returned to duty, but the Department Commander takes this occasion to warn Capt. Olmsted that the course of conduct he seems to have chosen cannot be continued with impunity (G. C. M. O. 105, Nov. 28, 1887, D. Platte.)

Before a G. C. M. at Fort Du Chene, Utah, of which Capt. D. H. Kinzie, 5th Art., was president, was tried 1st Lieut. Montgomery D. Parker, 9th Cav. Charge 1—Conduct to the prejudice, etc.—two specifications, the first alleging that being required to wear the prescribed uniform at company roll calls he disregarded the order and presented himself, Sept. 29, at reveille roll call and morning stables in a double-breasted and unbuttoned coat with two rows of buttons. The second alleging that his attention being called to this matter by the post commander, Major J. F. Randlett, 9th Cav., he replied in an endorsement implying that Major Randlett was unjustly discriminating against him and had singled him out for discipline, which implication had no foundation in fact and was groundless. Charge 2—Violation of 30th Article of War—one specification, alleging that having been told by Major Randlett, 9th Cav., commanding Fort Du Chene, that his (Lieut. Parker's) manners had been noticed for some days as contemptuous and disrespectful, and that now he had submitted an endorsement on an official paper, that was considered offensive and insubordinate, and told that he (the C. O.) was at a loss to know the cause for his (Lieut. Parker's) conduct, and asked if he would give his reasons for it, he did reply in a surly and contemptuous manner: "I believe I have saluted you when I have passed you, have I not?" or words to that effect; and on being further told that he had not passed the compliments of the day, did reply in a disrespectful and contemptuous manner, as follows, viz.: "So far as speaking to you is concerned, that is my business," or words to that effect. Plea—Not guilty. Finding—Of Charges 1 and 2, Guilty, with some modifications in the specifications. Sentence—"To be reprimanded in General Orders by the Department Commander, and to be suspended, from rank and command, and confined to the limits of the post where his troop may be serving, for one month." The proceedings and findings are approved, except the finding to the 1st specification, which is disapproved. That he should be found guilty of disobeying an order without criminality is simply absurd. The sentence, though deemed inadequate, is confirmed, and will be duly executed. Lieut. Parker stands convicted of insubordination and disrespect to his commanding officer, and the evidence fully sustains the finding without a single mitigating circumstance to justify his conduct; it shows that he has been lacking in that obedience and respect that every good officer and soldier owes to his superior, and consequently his unfitness to command, as he can never receive from his juniors that which he himself fails to accord to those he is sworn to obey. He cannot plead inexperience, as his conduct in this case shows that he has not learned the first principles of a good soldier in over nine years' service as an officer, and it is hoped he will not allow this lesson to pass unheeded.

By command of Brigadier-General Crook: SAMUEL BRUCE, Asst. Adjutant-General. (G. C. M. O. 105, Nov. 28, 1887, D. Platte.)

#### 10th Cavalry, Colonel Benjamin H. Grierson.

Hdqs., Santa Fe, N. M.; E, F, K, and L, Ft. Grant, A. T.; A and D, San Carlos, A. T.; C and H, Ft. Apache, A. T.; I, Ft. Verde, A. T.; B and G, Ft. Thomas, A. T.; M, Ft. Bayard, N. M.

1st Lieut. T. W. Jones, R. Q. M., is relieved from duty in connection with Indian affairs at Fort Apache, A. T., and will proceed to Santa Fe, N. M., and report for duty (S. O. 129, Dec. 2, D. Ariz.)

A furlough for three months is granted 1st Sergt. T. H. Allsup, Troop D (S. O. 128, Dec. 1, D. Ariz.)

Before a G. C. M. at Fort Grant, A. T., and of which Major E. B. Beaumont, 4th Cav., was president, was tried 1st Lieut. William Davis, Jr., 10th Cav. Charge—Conduct to the prejudice, etc.—three specifications, the first alleging absence from his command and post and the second that being on duty in command of his troop and having received repeated orders to return to his post, did remain in Wilcox, A. T., until brought back in an ambulance by the post surgeon, sent for him by his post commander; the third that while in the field he disobeyed an order to march his troop to its station for payment. He was found guilty of the charge with some modification of the specifications and sentenced to be suspended from rank and command for the period of three months, and to be confined to the limits of the post reservation where his troop may be serving, for the same period. The proceedings, findings, and sentence in the foregoing case of 1st Lieut. William Davis, Jr., 10th Cav., are approved and confirmed, and the sentence will be duly executed.

By command of Brigadier-General Miles: M. BARBER, Assistant Adjutant-General. (G. C. M. O. 66, Nov. 28, 1887, D. Ariz.)

#### 1st Artillery, Colonel John C. Tidball.

Hdqs., A, C, D, F, I, L, and K, Presidio of San Francisco, Cal.; B and H, Alcatraz Island, Cal.; E, Vancouver Bks., W. T.; G, Ft. Monroe, Va.; M, Ft. Mason, Cal.

2d Lieut. T. Bentley Mott is relieved from temporary duty with Bat. I, and will join his battery (L) at the Presidio (S. O. 93, Dec. 1, D. Cal.)

Bat. I is relieved from duty at the Round Valley Indian Reservation, and will return to the Presidio of San Francisco (S. O. 94, Dec. 3, D. Cal.)

#### 2nd Artillery, Colonel Romeyn B. Ayres.

Hdqs., G, and L, St. Francis Bks., Fla.; A and E, Little Rock Bks., Ark.; B and H, Ft. Barrancas, Fla.; C and D, Mount Vernon Bks., Ala.; F, Ft. Leavenworth, Kas.; I, Ft. Monroe, Va.; K and M, Jackson Bks., La.

1st Lieut. Thomas McGuire, Light Bat. F, is placed upon the retired list (S. O., Dec. 9, H. Q. A.)

Bat. K, which left Fort Monroe, Dec. 7, has now got comfortably settled at Jackson Barracks, New Orleans.

The Kansas City Times, referring to the recent retirement of Sergt. Thos. McGuire, says: "Sergt. McGuire is only 45 years of age, enlisting as a music boy in 1858. During his thirty years' service he has made a record which any man would be proud to possess, and which should inspire the young men of the Army to emulation. We have had his acquaintance for more than twelve years, during which time his bearing and conduct have always been that of a good soldier and a gentleman. He has never been brought before a Court-martial for infraction of discipline, which speaks volumes for itself. He takes into his retirement the best wishes of every officer and member of his battery, with the hope that the coming years which, if health is any indicator, may be many, will give to him prosperity and happiness."

#### 3rd Artillery, Colonel Horatio G. Gibson.

Hdqs., A, C, E, H, K, and L, Washington Bks., D. C.; B, Newport Bks., Ky.; D, G, and I, Ft. McHenry, Md.; M, Ft. Monroe, Va.; F, San Antonio, Tex.

1st Lieuts. Benjamin H. Randolph and Henry R. Lemly are detailed additional members of the G. C. M. at Fort Myer, Va. (S. O. 268, Dec. 13, Div. A.)

#### 4th Artillery, Colonel Clermont L. Best.

Hdqs., B, D, E, G, and I, Ft. Adams, N. Y.; A, C, and F, Ft. Trumbull, Conn.; F, Ft. Snelling, Minn.; H and K, Ft. Warren, Mass.; J, Ft. Monroe, Va.; M, Ft. Probie, Mo.

1st Lieut. Samuel R. Jones, having been appointed Regimental Quartermaster, will proceed from Fort Trumbull to Fort Adams and report for duty (S. O. 264, Dec. 10, Div. A.)

The leave granted Capt. Joseph B. Campbell, Fort Monroe, is extended fourteen days (S. O. 264, Dec. 10, Div. A.)

The leave granted Capt. Harry C. Cushing, Fort Adams, is extended one day (S. O. 268, Dec. 13, Div. A.)

#### 5th Artillery, Colonel Alex. Piper.

Hdqs., E, F, I, and H, Ft. Hamilton, N. Y.; A, C, and L, Ft. Columbus, N. Y.; G, Ft. Monroe, Va.; B, Ft. Wadsworth, N. Y.; D, Ft. Douglas, Utah; K and M, Ft. Schuyler, N. Y.

Capt. William E. Van Reed, having been found by an Army Retiring Board incapacitated for active service on account of disability incident to the service, is retired from active service (S. O., Dec. 9, H. Q. A.)

2d Lieut. Thomas Ridgway is detailed at Willet's Point, N. Y., for instruction in torpedo service for the course ending with June 30, 1888, vice 2d Lieut. Avery D. Andrews, whose detail is revoked (S. O., Dec. 10, H. Q. A.)

Leave for one month and two days, to commence on or about Dec. 18, is granted 1st Lieut. David D. Johnson, Fort Columbus, N. Y. H. (S. O. 263, Dec. 12, Div. A.)

Leave for one month, to commence on or about Dec. 20, is granted 1st Lieut. William H. Coffin, Fort Hamilton (S. O. 268, Dec. 15, Div. A.)

The leave for seven days granted Capt. Samuel M. Mills, Fort Monroe, Va., is extended two days (S. O. 268, Dec. 15, Div. A.)

The C. O., Fort Columbus is authorized to issue a furlough for two months to 1st Sergt. George W. Wells, Bat. C (S. O. 268, Dec. 13, Div. A.)

The C. O., Fort Schuyler, N. Y. H., is authorized to issue a furlough for forty-five days to 1st Sergt. Max Hoffman, Bat. M (S. O. 268, Dec. 13, Div. A.)

#### 1st Infantry, Colonel William R. Shafter.

Hdqs., A, D, I, and K, Angel Island, Cal.; F and G, Bandis Bks., Cal.; C and E, Presidio of San Francisco, Cal.; B, Ft. Gaston, Cal.; H, Ft. McDermitt, Nev.

#### 2nd Infantry, Colonel Frank Wheaton.

Hdqs., A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, and K, Ft. Omaha, Neb. 1st Sergt. Lewis Hoyt, Co. D, and 1st Sergt. Alfred Holm, Co. K, will report to the Board of Officers at Fort Omaha for examination for appointment as Post Q. M. Sergeant (S. O. 125, Dec. 5, D. Platte.)

#### 3rd Infantry, Colonel John R. Brooke.

Hdqs., A, G, H, and K, Ft. Shaw, A. T.; B, D, F, and I, Ft. Missoula, M. T.; C and E, Ft. Custer, M. T.

#### 4th Infantry, Colonel William P. Carlin.

Hdqs., C, D, E, and H, Ft. Sherman, Idaho; A, B, F, I, and K, Ft. Spokane, Wash. T.; G, Boise Barracks, Idaho.

#### 5th Infantry, Colonel George Gibson.

Hdqs., A, B, D, E, G, I, and H, Ft. Keogh, M. T.; F and K, Ft. Totten, D. T.; C, Ft. A. Lincoln, D. T.

One of the most remarkable men at the Soldiers' Home, Washington, D. C., considering his advanced age, is Andrew Boyd, formerly of the 5th U. S. Inf., who was severely wounded at the Battle of Palo Alto, May 6, 1846. He is now 92 years of age, but has the strength and activity of a comparatively young man.—Critic.

#### 6th Infantry, Colonel Alex. McD. McCook.

Hdqs., H, and I, Ft. Leavenworth, Kas.; A, B, C, D, and G, Ft. Douglas, Utah; E, Salt Lake City, Utah; F and K, Highwood, Lake County, Ill.

1st Lieut. David L. Craft will report to Brig.-Gen. Thomas H. Ruger, president Army Retiring Board at St. Paul, Minn., for examination (S. O., Dec. 9, H. Q. A.)

The resignation of 2d Lieut. Ambrose I. Moriarty has been accepted by the President, to take effect Dec. 15, 1887 (S. O., Dec. 9, H. Q. A.)

Corpl. William H. Briscoe, Co. A, has been promoted sergeant and Pvt. Daniel Verrips corporal.

Pvt. Charles McMullin, Co. C, has been appointed corporal.

#### 7th Infantry, Colonel Henry C. Merriam.

Hdqs., B, D, E, and F, Ft. Laramie, Wyo.; A and H, Camp Pike, Btts., Wyo.; G and I, Ft. Washita, Wyo.; C and K, Ft. McKinnon, Wyo.

The leave for fifteen days granted Capt. H. B. Freeman is extended fifteen days (S. O. 124, Dec. 2, D. Platte.)

#### 8th Infantry, Colonel August V. Kautz.

Hdqs., A, B, E, F, G, and H, Ft. Niobrara, Neb.; C, D, I, and K, Ft. Robinson, Neb.

Leave for one month and twenty days is granted 1st Lieut. Robert F. Ames, Fort Niobrara (S. O. 148, Dec. 13, Div. M.)

#### 9th Infantry, Colonel John S. Mason.

Hdqs., H, I, and K, Whipple Bks., A. T.; B, Ft. Thomas, A. T.; E, San Diego Bks., Cal.; C, Ft. Apache, A. T.; A, Ft. Mojave, A. T.; D, Ft. McDowell, A. T.; F, San Carlos, A. T.; G, Ft. Bowie, A. T.

1st Lieut. J. A. Baldwin is appointed recruiting officer at Fort McDowell, A. T. (S. O. 129, Dec. 2, D. Ariz.)

#### 14th Infantry, Colonel Thomas M. Anderson.

Hdqs., B, C, D, E, F, G, and H, Vancouver Bks., Wash. T.; A, Ft. Townsend, Wash. T.; K, Ft. Klamath, Ore.; I, Ft. Leavenworth, Kas.

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION OF THE PACIFIC, SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., NOV. 29, 1887.

General Orders No. 8.

Before a General Court-martial which convened at Portland, Ore., pursuant to par. 1, S. O. 70, Oct. 31, 1887, Hdqs. Div. of Pacific, and of which Col. William R. Shafter, 1st Inf., is president, was arraigned and tried Capt. Thomas T. Tobey, 4th Inf. Charge—Drunkenness on duty. Plea—Not guilty. Findings—Of Specification 2, Not guilty; of Specification 1, Not guilty; of the Charge, Not guilty. The court do therefore acquit him.

According to law and precedent, the exercise of power by

A General Court-martial admitting a wife to testify for her husband is not sanctioned, and the action of the court in the matter is disapproved. The court was clearly wrong in excluding certain inquiries on the cross-examination of the accused when on the stand as a witness. Undoubtedly when an accused person takes the witness stand in his own behalf, to testify under oath, it is a plain exclusion of the truth to prevent a properly conducted cross-examination, as the court seems to have done in this case. There is something extraordinary in the rulings of the court which excluded testimony in rebuttal offered for the purpose of showing the want of credibility of witnesses for the defence. Whether the findings and sentence would have been different had the court pursued the usual fairness as indicated in the above objections, and had it been more willing to allow the introduction of circumstantial evidence, the reviewing officer has no means of determining, and is therefore left to the simple alternative of approval or disapproval. With the foregoing remarks the proceedings and findings are confirmed.

By command of Major-General Howard:  
CHAUNCEY MCKEEVER, Asst. Adjt.-Gen.

#### 16th Infantry, Colonel Matthew M. Blunt.

Hqrs., B. and H. Ft. Bliss, Tex.; C. Ft. Concho, Tex.; E. Ft. McIntosh, Tex.; F. Ft. Davis, Tex.; A. Ft. G. and K. San Antonio, Tex.; D. Ft. Ringgold, Tex.

Major John B. Parke, having relinquished the unexpired portion of his leave, is relieved from duty at Fort Concho, Tex., and will proceed to Fort McIntosh, Tex., and take station thereat (S. O. 142, Dec. 8, D. Tex.).

#### 17th Infantry, Colonel Alexander Chambers.

Hqrs., A. B. C. E. F. G. I. and K. Ft. D. A. Russell, Wyo.; D. and H. Ft. Bridger, Wyo.

In the case of Capt. Charles H. Greene, sentenced to be suspended from rank and command for one year, and to be confined to the limits of the post where his company is serving for the same period, the unexpired portion of his sentence is remitted (G. C. M. O. 160, Dec. 8, D. Platte.).

Leave for one month on Surgeon's certificate is granted 1st Lieut. William A. Mann, Adjt., Fort D. A. Russell (S. O. 130, Dec. 7, D. Platte.).

#### 18th Infantry, Colonel John E. Yard.

Hqrs., B. and D. Ft. Hays, Kas.; F. Ft. Leavenworth, Kas.; G. and I. Ft. Gibson, L. T.; G. H. and K. Ft. Riley, Kas.; A. and E. Denver, Colo.

Leave for one month, to take effect about Dec. 20, with permission to apply for an extension of one month, is granted 1st Lieut. Charles McClure (S. O. 131, Dec. 10, Dept. M.).

Thirty recruits will be forwarded to the 18th Inf. (S. O. Dec. 12, H. Q. A.).

1st Sergt. Fred. Imhof, Co. G, recently tried at Fort Riley for "sassing" the post sergeant-major, has been acquitted.

#### 20th Infantry, Colonel Elwell S. Otis.

Hqrs., A. B. C. E. F. H. and K. Ft. Assiniboine, M. T.; D. Ft. Maginnis, M. T.; G. and I. Camp Poplar River, M. T.

21st Infantry, Colonel Henry A. Morrow.  
Hqrs., A. C. E. and G. Ft. Sidney, Neb.; D. and H. Ft. Bridger, Wyo.; B. F. I. and K. Ft. Duchesne, Utah (Post-office address via Ouray, Utah).

1st Lieut. Willis Wittich, Fort Du Chesne, will proceed to Fort Omaha and report, as witness, to the J. A. of the G. C. M. now in session at that place (S. O. 138, Dec. 7, D. Platte.).

#### 22nd Infantry, Colonel Peter F. Swaine.

Hqrs., A. B. D. G. H. and K. Ft. Lewis, Colo.; C. F. and I. Ft. Lyon, Colo.; E. Ft. Maroon, N. M.

1st Sergt. J. N. Barrett, Co. F, recently tried at Fort Leavenworth for desertion, has been dishonorably discharged and sent to the military prison for three years.

#### 23rd Infantry, Colonel Henry M. Black.

Hqrs., F. G. H. and I. Ft. Wayne, Mich.; A. and B. Ft. Brady, Mich.; C. and D. Ft. Kearsley, N. Y.; E. and K. Mackinac, Mich.

Leave for four months, to take effect Jan. 1, 1888, is granted 1st Lieut. Stephen O'Connor (S. O., Dec. 12, H. Q. A.).

#### 24th Infantry, Colonel Zenas R. Bliss.

Hqrs., C. E. G. and I. Ft. Sill, Ind. T.; D. and H. Ft. Supply, Ind. T.; A. and K. Ft. Reno, Ind. T.; B. and F. Ft. Elliott, Tex.

A furlough for four months is granted 1st Sergt. Charles H. Chinn, Co. E (S. O. 142, Dec. 12, Div. M.).

#### 25th Infantry, Colonel George L. Andrews.

Hqrs., B. C. E. and I. Ft. Snelling, Minn.; A. D. H. and K. Ft. Meade, Dak.; F. and G. Ft. Sisseton, Dak.

Leave to April 1, 1888, is granted Capt. David Schooley (S. O., Dec. 14, H. Q. A.).

Thirteen colored infantry recruits will be forwarded to the 25th Inf. (S. O., Dec. 12, H. Q. A.).

**Appointments, Promotions, Retirements, Transfers, Casualties, etc., of Commissioned Officers of the U. S. Army recorded in the Adjutant-General's Office during the week ending Saturday, December 10, 1887.**

#### RETIREMENT.

Captain William E. Van Reed, 5th Artillery, December 9, 1887 (section 1201, Revised Statutes).

#### CASUALTY.

1st Lieutenant Benjamin F. Handforth, 11th Infantry, dismissed December 7, 1887.

#### Military Academy.

The resignation of Cadet James L. Sowell, 4th Class, is accepted (S. O., Dec. 8, H. Q. A.).  
Cadet John B. Conrad, Jr., 4th Class, is granted leave on account of ill health until June 1, 1888, when he will join the 4th Class (S. O., Dec. 14, H. Q. A.).

#### Courts-martial.

The following courts have been ordered:

At San Diego Barracks, Cal., Dec. 5. Detail: Major David L. Huntington, Surg.; Major Dainordfield Parker, Capt. William E. Hoffman, and 1st Lieut. Thomas S. Clay, 10th Inf.; 2d Lieut. Edmund Wittenmyer, 9th Inf., and 1st Lieut. Edgar B. Robertson, 9th Inf., J. A. (S. O. 127, Nov. 29, D. Ariz.).

At Fort D. A. Russell, Wyo., Dec. 8. Detail: Major James S. Carey, Capt. Clarence E. Bennett, William M. Van Horne, and Thomas Sharp, 1st Lieuts. James M. Burns, George H. Roach, Edgar W. Howe, and Robert W. Dowdy, 2d Lieuts. Edward I. Grumley, James T. Kerr, Edgar S. Walker, Charles D. Clay, and James L. Drueken, 17th Inf., and 1st Lieut. George Rubien, 17th Inf., J. A. (S. O. 154, Dec. 2, D. Platte.).

At Fort Pembina, D. T., Dec. 12. Detail: Capt. Chambers McRoblin, 15th Inf.; Capt. Frank D. Baldwin, 5th Inf.; 1st Lieut. Edward S. Chapin, and George H. Cornish, 15th Inf.; 2d Lieut. William H. Sage, 5th Inf.; 2d Lieut. Leon S. Roudiez, 15th Inf., and 2d Lieut. Andrew S. Rowan, 15th Inf., J. A. (S. O. 134, Dec. 8, D. Dak.).

At Fort Bayard, N. M., Dec. 12. Detail: Major Henry C. Cook, 18th Inf.; Capt. Stevens T. Norvell, 10th Cav.; Capt. Henry M. Kendall, 6th Cav.; Capt. Harry G. Carcough, 18th Inf.; Capt. William Stanton and 1st Lieut. Louis A. Craig, Adjt., 6th Cav.; 2d Lieut. William S. Biddle, Jr., 18th Inf.; 2d Lieut. Herbert S. Whitple, 10th Cav.; 2d Lieut. Alexander L. Dade, 18th Inf.; 2d Lieut. Alonso Gray, 6th Cav., and 1st Lieut. Robert Hanna, 6th Cav., J. A. (S. O. 150, Dec. 8, D. Ariz.).

At Fort Laramie, Wyo., Dec. 15. Detail: Capt. Richard Combs, Thaddeus S. Kirtland, Constant Williams, and William I. Reed, 7th Inf.; Capt. Louis Brechemin, Asst. Surg.; 1st Lieut. Daniel Robinson, Charles A. Booth, Alfred B. Johnson, and Daniel A. Frederick, 2d Lieuts. Daniel L. Howell and George W. McIver, 7th Inf., and 1st Lieut. Charles A. Worden, Adjt., 7th Inf., J. A. (S. O. 138, Dec. 7, D. Platte.).

At Fort Sidney, Neb., Dec. 14. Detail: Capt. Ebenezer W. Stone, 1st Lieut. Joseph W. Duncan, Adjt., Charles A. Williams, R. Q. M., Charles H. Bonesteel, and John S. Parke, Jr., 2d Lieuts. Francis J. Kernan, Frederick L. Palmer, and Almon L. Parmerter, 21st Inf., and 2d Lieut. Edward H. Brooke, 21st Inf., J. A. (S. O. 126, Dec. 7, D. Platte.).

At Fort Columbus, N. Y. H., Dec. 12. Detail: Capt. William B. Beck and Charles Morris, 1st Lieut. Frank Thorp, David D. Johnson, James C. Bush, and William R. Hamilton, and 2d Lieut. John D. Miley, 5th Art., and 2d Lieut. Avery D. Andrews, 5th Art., J. A. (S. O. 233, Dec. 9, Div. A.).

At Fort Riley, Kas., Dec. 13. Detail: Capt. Henry Jackson, 7th Cav.; Capt. W. A. Miller, 18th Inf.; 1st Lieut. W. J. Nicholson, 7th Cav.; 2d Lieut. T. W. Griffith and E. A. Lewis, 18th Inf.; 2d Lieut. T. Q. Donaldson, Jr., 7th Cav.; 2d Lieut. F. D. Evans, 18th Inf., and 2d Lieut. J. D. Mann, 7th Cav., J. A. (S. O. 131, Dec. 10, Dept. M.).

At Fort Schuyler, N. Y. H., Dec. 13. Detail: Major Richard H. Jackson and Capt. Henry F. Brewerton, 5th Art.; Capt. Louis M. Maus, Asst. Surg.; Capt. Selden A. Day, 1st Lieut. Benjamin K. Roberts and Thomas R. Adams, and 2d Lieut. Charles B. Wheeler, 5th Art., and 2d Lieut. Gustav W. S. Stevens, 5th Art., J. A. (S. O. 234, Dec. 10, Div. A.).

At Fort Preble, Colo., Dec. 23. Detail: Major Jacob B. Rowles, 4th Art.; Capt. George E. Bushnell, Asst. Surgeon; Capt. Frederick Fugler, 4th Art.; 2d Lieut. Walter N. P. Darrow and George F. Landers, 4th Art., and 1st Lieut. Peter Leary, 4th Art., J. A. (S. O. 208, Div. Atl., Dec. 15).

#### Army Boards.

A Board of Officers will meet at Fort Omaha, Neb., to report upon the qualifications of enlisted men for appointment as Post Q. M. Sergeants. Detail: Lieut.-Col. Joshua S. Fletcher, Jr., Major Edmund Butler, and 1st Lieut. Augustus R. Egbert, 2d Inf., A. Q. M. (S. O. 125, Dec. 5, D. Platte.).

A Board of Survey, to consist of Capt. Ogden B. Read, 1st Lieut. Ralph W. Hoyt, and 2d Lieut. Arthur W. Johnson, 11th Inf., will meet at Pittsburgh Barracks, N. Y., Dec. 12, to fix the responsibility for the loss of medical property at Fort Spokane, Wash. T., in July, 1886, and for which Capt. W. O. Owen, Jr., Asst. Surg., is responsible (S. O. 263, Dec. 9, Div. A.).

A Board of Survey, to consist of Col. David L. Magruder, Surg.; Capt. Charles A. Vernon, 19th Inf., and 1st Lieut. Hugh L. Scott, 7th Cav., will assemble at the general depot of the Quartermaster's Department, Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 19 (S. O., Dec. 14, H. Q. A.).

**Post Funds.**—Gen. Merritt, commanding Dept. Missouri, in a decision on certain proceedings of a council of Administration says: "As the post commander is held responsible for any unauthorized expenditures of the post fund, and as the regulations make it his duty to verify and approve all accounts, his opinions as an officer especially interested in matters pertaining to the post fund expenditures should habitually be conclusive. The decision that magazines cannot be subscribed for from post funds is imperative in Cir. No. 5, A. G. O., 1886, and Cir. No. 6, A. G. O., 1887. The council in this case claims to purchase missing numbers in order to make up the volumes evidently to be bound in books for the library. This would seem to be a fair claim, but on turning to the proceedings of the council it is found that the magazines wanted to complete the files are all issued for a year or the greater part of a year. The decision of the post commander is therefore concurred in. So far as the books mentioned are concerned, as it is a matter of personal opinion as to some of the books not being of personal interest, it is thought that this difference can be settled at the post. Army Regulations 528, 560 and 575 cover the sources from which the post fund accrues. A charge for it to the post trader is not approved. The following is the decision of the Secretary of War on the subject, as to its interfering with the rights of a post trader, of date of June 29, in reply to a request of May 19, for a decision as to whether company or post canteens at a post where there is a post trader have a right to sell cigars, tobacco, beer or any article kept for sale by the post trader: 'The operation of the canteen referred to does not infringe upon the post trader as defined by the statutes and the Army Regulations.'

**Data on Muster Rolls.**—The Secretary of War has approved the recommendation of the Paymaster-General that, where monthly muster of troops has been authorized, the proper officers be instructed in mustering troops on the last day of February, April, June, August, October and December of each year, to charge two months' Army Asylum dues, omitting any charge on that account on the intervening muster days. (Letter A. G. O., Dec. 10, 1887.)

A NORRISTOWN despatch says: "The police has arrested Wm. Prinz for desertion. Prinz enlisted to escape the claims of a woman to whom he was married. The woman followed him to Jefferson Barracks, and, getting him to meet her outside the barracks, threw his cap and accoutrements into a river. Prinz says he was afraid to return to the barracks, lest he be punished for the loss of his cap and arms, so deserted."

#### DEPARTMENT NEWS.

#### Division of the Atlantic.—Maj.-Gen. Schofield.

A complaint having been made that the colored inhabitants of Freedman's village, which is located within the reservation of Fort Myer, Va., have been in the habit of cutting down trees in the cemetery, the Secretary of War has issued an order requiring all the inhabitants of Freedman's village, as well as all other unauthorized persons living within the reservation limits, to remove within a reasonable time.

We have made several allusions already to the very interesting and able report of Major General Schofield for the past year. In considering the needs of the military service, especially in the Division of

the Atlantic, the General has an able argument on the subject of coast defenses.

The Secretary of War has suspended indefinitely the operation of the order directing the removal of Freedmen's Village, the negro colony on the Arlington reservation, on which Fort Myer, Virginia, is situated.

The C. O. Madison Barracks has been directed to transfer to the Secretary of the U. S. Military Service Institution, Governor's Island, one of the two old field pieces captured from the British in 1812.

#### Dept. of the Platte.—Brig. Gen. George Crook.

A roster of troops, Dept. Platte, for December, just received, contains some interesting "notes," showing the operations of the troops under General Crook since August last. The account of General Crook's interview with the Governor of Colorado, at Meeker, in August last, and of the Indian troubles in that locality is especially interesting.

#### Dept. of Texas.—Brig. Gen. D. S. Stanley.

Gen. Stanley presents an interesting annual report. Referring to Fort Bliss he says: "It is one of the mistakes in the way of locating a military post amounting to a blunder. The place is utterly unfit for military purposes. The reservation of 133 acres has some value as city property, and I recommend that the same plan be taken in regard to the post as has been applied to Newport Barracks, Ky." Upon the subject of the soldiers' table fare he says:

The reports of the Medical Director and the Inspector General both point out the faulty administration of the Subsistence Department. I fully concur in the views of these officers. Soldiers are not furnished with proper vegetables, nor is pork a commodity that can be bartered for vegetables in this State, as it is not used as food or quoted in market. The policy of the Subsistence Department, therefore, compels the soldier to buy a portion of his necessary ration, a thing not contemplated in the understanding of the contract contained in the oath of enlistment. This condition of the ration question is a fruitful source of desertion, and I think can be remedied, if carefully examined on the principles of equity and right.

Capt. S. T. Cushing, chief C. S., in a sub-report recommends that the Subsistence Department be required to furnish, upon the properly approved requisition of the company commanders, such proper cooking utensils, table ware and cutlery, as may be needed to prepare for use, and to serve in an appetizing manner, upon the table, the food which it furnishes for the subsistence of the soldiers.

Capt. J. G. Ballance, Judge Advocate, referring to causes of desertion, says: "There can be no doubt but that there is great dissatisfaction in the Army with the ration as now issued, although opinions differ as to the nature of the remedy. The power of logic and arithmetical computation have not yet reached that point of perfection that they can convince the average man that his hunger is the mere result of imagination. And there can be no doubt, many desertions are caused by the soldiers' inability to understand or appreciate such logic. The happiness and comfort of the enlisted men of a company, depend now, not so much on the ability of the company commander as an officer, and the attention he pays to his legitimate duties, as on his inherent, or cultivated ability to trade in pork and fresh vegetables."

There are many other interesting features in Gen. Stanley's report, all worthy of careful attention.

#### Dept. of Dakota.—Brig. Gen. T. H. Ruger.

General Ruger, in his annual report, says: "There has been a decrease the present year, as compared with former years, in Indian depredations and in raids between reservation Indians, and also of predatory incursions by Indians of the Canadian Northwest Territory. The better state, in general, is, doubtless, owing to continued activity, for years past, by the troops, to suppress the evils indicated, and a gradual accommodation of the Indians to their more dependent condition, following the extinction of the buffalo and the loss, owing to settlement of the country and extension of railroads, of all the places of refuge to which, formerly, they went, when hostile, for at least temporary security. I do not, however, wish it implied, from the foregoing remarks, that I think a reduction of the force in the Department advisable, as I am of opinion that necessity will exist, for years, for the retention, if not establishment, of posts at suitable points to give means, by quick concentration of adequate force, to repress at the outset inclination to hostility, still to be provided against, on the part of reservation Indians, who could now, if not controlled, do greater harm in a short time, with settlements within easy reach, than was formerly done, by years of hostility."

#### Division of the Pacific.—Maj.-Gen. O. O. Howard.

In his annual report Major-General Howard says that the amount of desertion in the Division of the Pacific this year has reached nearly 8 per cent.; this is more than 2 per cent. increase over the loss from this cause last year, the Department of Arizona furnishing the largest per centum of the increase and the Department of California the smallest. He is strongly of the opinion that a shorter first enlistment would be beneficial, making less desertions and enabling recruiting officers to secure a larger proportion than now of good reliable men. There has been a noticeable advance in the instruction and discipline of the troops in the Division during the past year. There is a proper spirit among the officers generally; but the companies when full are small, and practically much less than full. So long as the majority of the soldiers are required to labor daily at all kinds of work in garrisons and about the reservations, work that should properly be performed by hired labor, just so long will the gauge of instruction be low. There has been a marked improvement in the rifle practice of the Division, and the standard attained at the Division contest is higher than before. A simplification of courts-martial, particularly the giving of some general regulation or the enactment of a general law which will secure equitable punishment for similar offences throughout the Army, is recommended. The differences are now very marked, punishments varying according to the constitution of the court, and the will, or judgment, of different reviewing officers.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

## RILEY RAMBLES.

DECEMBER 4, 1887.

CHAPLAIN PARKER lectured on "Our Prairie World" on Tuesday evening.

The grading of the parade ground is about three-fourths done. The officers' quarters on the south side of the parade are about three feet in air. The parade where the flagstaff stood has been lowered about five feet. The earth so removed is being used to fill in behind the old company quarters, with the view to extending the parade east and west, when the old company quarters are torn down. The new barracks to be built will face north, and will be on the line with the north end of those now occupied. The earth removed in the grading of the ground south of the officers' quarters was used to fill in the ravine at the south of the post. The new cavalry stables will be located at the south end of the parade, and will be tangent to a circle about one thousand feet from the flagstaff. The post commanders' new quarters are nearly ready for the plasterers. The quarters for the commanding officer of the artillery garrison and one gun shed are ready for their tin roofs. Two of the workshops for the artillery are nearly completed. The contractors' families will occupy them. The foundations for the two artillery stables have been laid and the walls carried up about four feet. The stones for all buildings will be dressed in the gun sheds.

Capt. Jackson moves into new quarters this week. Capt. Godfrey will move into the same building, west side, when the plumbers have finished their work. Dr. Bachs will occupy the quarters vacated by Capt. Jackson, and Capt. Miller will occupy those vacated by Capt. Godfrey. Lieut. Fuller moves into the quarters vacated by Lieut. Warwick, now on leave.

Lieut. Isham has taken a seven days' leave to visit his parents at Chicago. The Seventh regrets losing this popular and efficient young officer.

Miss Walker, of Kentucky, is visiting Mrs. Capt. Miller. Miss Fenlon, of Leavenworth, is visiting Mrs. McCormick. Mrs. Parker, of Leavenworth, is spending the winter with Mrs. Jackson.

The young people enjoyed a card party and punch at Gen. Forsyth's hospitable quarters on the 1st inst. Mrs. Capt. Miller entertained the garrison with a dance and supper on the 2d inst.

## POST AT DENVER, COLORADO.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Kansas City Times writes:

The post has not been christened yet, and the various appellations it refers are amusing. By the people of Denver it is called Fort and Camp Sheridan, Army post, Bear creek military post, etc. It is located nine miles from the city, and asking information regarding its location from a citizen is rewarded by being told that it is out in the country somewhere.

The men are still in tents. Not to be outdone by camp at Highwood we have put up some more canvas. The men are comfortably quartered in tents, the largest squad in any one tent being nine in number.

Congress meets soon, and if it takes an act of Congress to name the post we ought to be christened soon, for we have a commissary sergeant, hospital steward, and have had a general and garrison court martial and strong hopes of an addition to the census. There are times when the men look back with regret at the comfortable quarters at Leavenworth, when all the heat to be extracted from the radiators wouldn't begin to make an impression on a plate of ice cream. They do miss the bath rooms, which are the best in the Military Service.

Why not name the post near Denver, Col., Fort McClellan, after General George B. McClellan. It would certainly be a deserved mark of respect to that gallant officer.

## HOT SPRINGS, ARK.

FIRST SERGEANT NORRREY, Co. F, 18th Inf., writes from the hospital at Hot Springs that he has improved greatly in health, and of the treatment the patients are required to undergo says: "We bathe every day except Sunday. We can have the water as hot as we desire, but the physician recommends that it be not more than 98°. From three to five glasses of the hot water are drunk each day by the patients. A man can drink hot water the whole day, and after remaining in the tub for about fifteen minutes, we called for the rubber, who is a negro, employed to rub. There are three of them here, paid at the rate of \$30 per month, but the patients pay them a little extra in order to obtain a rub which will bring the blood in circulation again. After this we remain in the room for the purpose of sweating and you should see how the water runs off fellow. After sweating in this manner for about an hour we go into the sitting room to cool off and put on dry clothing, and to cool off that room must at least be 90°. There we remain an additional hour or more.

## SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS.

THE TIMES of Dec. 7 says:

A good joke was played on Lieut. G. P. Scriven, 3d U. S. Artillery, at Floresville a few evenings ago. The gallant young officer went up to that bailiwick in search of Private Stoppler, the deserter who stole two horses from Government Hill. Not being known to the sheriff, the lieutenant had scarcely set foot in Floresville ere he was taken into custody by Deputy Wallace, who accused him of stealing Lieut. Scriven's horse. "Why, I am Lieut. Scriven," said the astonished young officer, and I am after the thief myself. "Oh, that's too thin," replied the knowing official, "you are my man, and you'd better come along." Of course Mr. Scriven could only submit and smile. Soon after the incident, however, the situation was explained by the capture of the real culprit, and the recovery of the lieutenant's horse as well.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

## COLUMBUS BARRACKS, O.

DECEMBER 11, 1887.

The friends of Maj. and Mrs. Kellogg will be pained to hear of the death of their only daughter, Miss Lulu, aged seven years, which occurred at Columbus Barracks, O., on the evening of Dec. 6, of bronchitis. The remains were taken to Jefferson, Ashtabula County, O., for interment. The garrison was also called upon to perform the last offices of death for Rect. Charles S. Denbo, Co. A, of 1st Inf., who died in the post hospital on Dec. 6, of acute Bright's disease. Sergt. Marcus J. Pollak, who, for a period of eight years, has been recruiting sergeant at these barracks, has received his appointment as commissary sergeant with station at Fort Lowell, Ariz.

## MONTEREY, CAL.

A CORRESPONDENT visiting here writes:

Monterey is full of historical relics that are interesting to Americans. Here was the first capital of Alta-California, and here took place the brief and bloody struggle for American occupation. Here Commodore Sloat ran up the American flag on an old liberty pole made from the mast of a ship, which still stands as a monument of that event. Near by in ruins is the adobe building which served as the headquarters of Stevenson's regiment, which was composed of the worst toughs that could be gathered from the Bowery of New York. On a neighboring hillside is a rambling old building which served Fremont, the Pathfinder, as his headquarters during the few months he spent at Monterey. It is now used as a sheepfold, and nothing now remains to

mark the martial character of the hill on which it stands save one old cannon.

## FORT LEAVENWORTH, KAS.

THE Kansas City Times says:

Capt. J. G. D. Knight, Corps of Engineers, has reported for duty here and taken charge of the Engineering Department of the school. He will occupy the quarters now held by Lieut. Waite, 5th Cav., 46 West End. The latter will remove to 51 West End, displacing Dr. McCaw, who will occupy 57, one of the brick cottages, displacing Lieut. Sharp. The details of occupying quarters according to rank are exemplified in this instance.

At the progressive euchre party given by Mrs. Wetherell Thursday night, Mrs. Almy obtained the first prize.

Miss Florence Farrell and Lieut. J. A. Irons, 20th Inf., were entertained last evening by Chaplain and Mrs. McCleery.

The mother of Mrs. Shindel and Miss Guthrie, daughter of Captain Guthrie, 13th Inf., are visiting at Captain Shindel's residence.

Miss Cody, of Cleveland, niece of Bill Cody, is expected here next week to visit Chaplain and Mrs. McCleery.

The garrison is now being visited by a millionaire. Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell of Milwaukee are the guests of Gen. and Mrs. McCook.

The post chaplain is raising money for a Christmas tree, to be had in the post chapel Dec. 24.

At a recent meeting of the Cavalry Association the following papers were read: By Col. Geo. B. Sanford, on "The Mounted Fire Action of Cavalry;" by Capt. C. C. Carr, 1st Cav., and Capt. John B. Babcock, 5th Cav., on "The Dismounted Action of Cavalry;" by Lieut. Otto Hein, 1st Cav., on "The Organization, Armament, Instruction, Schools and Tactics of the French Cavalry;" At the next meeting papers will be read by Lieut. Eben Swift, 5th Cav., on "The Pistol and Sabre" and by Capt. C. W. Whipple, Ord. Dept., on "The New Field Artillery Guns."

The Dramatic Association at Vancouver Barracks mourns the loss of Lieut. Frank Taylor, 14th Inf., now at this post. The residents of Fort Leavenworth mourn the death of the Dramatic Association at the post. Can it be brought to life again?

## FORT LYON, COLO.

LIEUT. C. S. BURBANK, 10th Inf., and Post-trader Fabrian have gone to Denver for a few days. Mr. Fabrian has been selected as post-trader for the new post at that point.

Capt. and Mrs. F. E. Lacy, 10th Inf., have just celebrated their silver wedding in becoming style.

The young ladies of the garrison gave an excellent party and dance to their many friends, which was richly enjoyed by all.—K. C. Times.

## COURT-MARTIAL CASES.

1st SERGT. JOHN CONNELL, Co. H, 18th Infantry, was recently tried for "marching a drunken man on the detail for guard," and private Leander Case, same company, was tried for being drunk at guard mounting. Both were acquitted.

The reviewing authority, Gen. Merritt, says: "The findings and acquittals are disapproved. The testimony of the post adjutant and the officer of the guard is positive as to Private Case's condition at guard mounting, and that of the corporal of the guard shows conclusively what it was a few minutes afterwards. Upon careful consideration of the cases the department commander is unable to reconcile the findings of the court with the evidence: in his opinion Private Case was under the influence of liquor at guard mounting and Sergt. Connell was accordingly derelict in his duty in marching him out with his detail in that condition. (G. C. M. O. 40, Dept. Mo., 1887.)

[This winking at a man's condition at guard mount too often results in the man getting on guard, then being found drunk and confined for violation of the 38th Article of War, a more serious affair than violation of the 62d. Better confine him before than after.—ED. JOURNAL.]

In the case of two soldiers recently tried at Fort Randall, D. T., for disobedience of orders, the reviewing authority, Gen. H. Ruger, says: "The proceedings, findings and sentences are approved. It appears from the evidence that the disobedience of lawful orders was attended with deliberation and persistence, after instruction and warning as to the nature of the offence; and also with concert of action with other soldiers in a purpose to disobey. On their trial the prisoners sought to justify their disobedience on the ground of unlawfulness of the order disobeyed. The order required them to unload Government freight from a steamboat at the post landing. It was entirely within the discretion of the commanding officer to decide whether the exigencies of the Service, and the good of the post, made it necessary or proper, to receive the property on the boat, or await the action of the boat's captain to unload the same. It is, however, considered that the requirements of discipline will be met by a less severe punishment. So much of the sentence, therefore, as relates to confinement at hard labor, is mitigated to three years in each case, and as thus mitigated, the sentences will be duly executed. The military prison at Fort Leavenworth is designated as the place of confinement."

General Service Clerk Thomas Brown, who deserted from Whipple Barracks in 1882, was apprehended, escaped from confinement and again apprehended last October, will now pass a period of quiet meditation at the Leavenworth Military Prison and emerge in 1892 a wiser and, let us trust, a better man, who will thenceforth stick to his desk and never run away.

## BIRTHDAYS IN THE SERVICE.

The following officers of the Navy and Marine Corps celebrate their birthdays this week:

	Born.	Retires.
D. Smith, Chief Engineer.	Dec. 13, 1834	1896
G. H. Cooke, Surgeon.	" 12, 1836	1898
C. J. McConnell, Chief Engineer.	" 14, 1837	1899
W. Harkness, Professor.	" 17, 1837	1899
J. Lowe, Chief Engineer.	" 11, 1838	1900
E. J. Cloburne, Medical Inspector.	" 16, 1838	1900
E. N. Whitehouse, Paymaster.	" 12, 1839	1901
W. H. Jones, Surgeon.	" 14, 1840	1902
H. J. Babin, Surgeon.	" 15, 1842	1904
W. W. Reisinger, Lieut. Comdr.	" 14, 1843	1905
E. H. Gheen, Lieut.	" 11, 1845	1907
F. W. Barber, Lieut. Comdr.	" 16, 1845	1907
J. E. Pillsbury, Lieut.	" 17, 1846	1908
W. H. Emory, Jr., Lieut. Comdr.	" 12, 1847	1909
R. Hudson, Chaplain.	" 13, 1847	1909
A. F. Price, Surgeon.	" 13, 1847	1909
J. C. Sullivan, P. A. Paymaster.	" 11, 1848	1910
T. Porter, Lieut.	" 14, 1848	1910
R. Wainwright, Lieut.	" 17, 1849	1911
C. H. Rogers, P. Surgeon.	" 12, 1852	1914
R. F. Nicholson, Lieut.	" 15, 1852	1914
J. M. Helm,	" 16, 1853	1915
C. Biddle, P. A. Surgeon.	" 11, 1854	1916
H. Hutehins, Lieut.	" 12, 1854	1916
A. M. Knight,	" 16, 1854	1916
T. D. Griffin,	" 17, 1854	1916
W. S. Smith, Asst. Engr.	" 18, 1857	1919
W. E. Sanford, Ensign.	" 14, 1859	1921
W. H. Allderidge, Asst. Engineer.	" 15, 1859	1921
A. S. Halstead,	" 17, 1861	1923
C. M. Fahn, Ensign.	" 12, 1862	1924
W. A. Cooper, Boatswain.	" 15, 1867	1899
J. Smith, Gunter.	" 11, 1868	1900
T. Hager, Carpenter.	" 17, 1866	1908
G. S. Sheppard,	" 15, 1864	1916
G. C. Reid, Captain, M. C.	" 15, 1840	1904
S. H. Gibson, 1st Lieut., M. C.	" 23, 1844	1908
W. P. Biddle, " M. C.	" 17, 1848	1917
J. E. Mahoney, 3d Lieut., M. C.	" 15, 1850	1922

## THE NAVY.

## NAVAL VESSELS IN COMMISSION.

WHEN AND WHERE LAST HEARD FROM.

## N. Atlantic Station—Rear Admiral S. B. Luce.

ATLANTA, 2d rate, 8 rifled cannon and 12 machine guns, Captain Francis M. Bunce. At New York.

DOLPHIN, despatch boat, 1 gun. Comdr. George F. F. Wilde. At New York.

GALENA, 3d rate, 8 guns, Comdr. Colby M. Chester. At New York.

OSSEER, 3d rate, 8 guns, Comdr. W. B. Hoff. At Norfolk, waiting for supplies. Will leave Norfolk next week for a cruise among West Indies.

RICHMOND, 2d rate, 14 guns (f. s. n. a. s.), Capt. Robt. Boyd. At New York.

YANTIC, 3d rate, 4 guns, Comdr. O. F. Heyerman. At Norfolk, Va.

## S. Atlantic Station—Rear Adml. D. L. Bratne.

Mails should be addressed to the care of the U. S. Consul, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, unless otherwise noted, or care of H. F. Stevens, 4 Trafalgar Square, London.

ALLIANCE, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. Charles McGregor. Arrived at Montevideo, Dec. 15.

LANCASTER, 2d rate, 10 guns, (f. s. a. s.) Capt. S. L. Breese. At Montevideo, Dec. 15.

TALLAPOOSA, 3d rate, 13 guns, Comdr. F. W. Dickens. Reported by cable to have arrived at Montevideo, Dec. 15.

## European Station—R. Adml. Jas. A. Greer.

Mails should be addressed to care of B. F. Stevens, 4 Trafalgar Square, London, England, unless otherwise noted.

PENSACOLA, 2d rate, 16 guns (f. s. e. s.), Captain At Genoa, Italy, Dec. 1. Expects to sail shortly for Hampton Roads, Va., via Nice, Gibraltar and Madeira.

QUINNEBAUG, 3d rate, 8 guns, Comdr. W. M. Folger. Will meet the Pensacola at Genoa, Italy, about Dec. 10.

## Pacific Station—Rear Adml. L. A. Kimberly.

Mails, unless otherwise noted, should be addressed to care of U. S. Consul, Panama, U. S. C.

ADAMS, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. Louis Kempff.

Mail matter for the vessel should be sent to care of U. S. Navy Pay Office, San Francisco, Cal. Sailed from Honolulu for Samoan and Tonga Islands, Oct. 2.

ALERT, 3d rate, 4 guns, Comdr. J. D. Graham. At Panama Nov. 15.

INOQUOII, 3d rate, 7 guns, Comdr. Richard P. Leary. Sailed from Callao Nov. 6 for San Francisco. Ordered to stop at Topolo Bampo, to protect the interests of Americans residing there.

JUNIATA, 3d rate, 8 guns, Comdr. G. T. Davis. Sailed from Paita, Peru, Nov. 10, via Acapulco, Mazatlan, and Topolo Bampo, for San Francisco, Cal. Address mail to San Francisco, Cal., care of Navy Pay Office.

MONONGAHELA, 2d rate, 9 guns, Comdr. S. H. Baker. Used as a store ship at Coquimbo, Chili.

MOHICAN, 3d rate, 8 guns, Commander Benjamin F. Day. Address mail to San Francisco, Cal., care of Navy Pay Office. At Honolulu Nov. 4.

PINTA, 4th rate, screw, 3 guns, Lieut. Comdr. John S. Newell. At Juneau, Alaska, Sept. 23. To sail for Sitka in a few days.

THETIS, 4th rate, Lieut. Comdr. W. H. Emory, Jr. Reported by telegraph to have arrived at Nansaim, British Columbia, Nov. 23, and sailed Nov. 23 for Sitka.

VANDALIA, 2d rate, 8 guns, (f. s. p. s.), Capt. Henry L. Howison. Was at Honolulu Oct. 23.

Asiatic Station—Rear Adml. Ralph Chandler. Vessel with (?), address, Mail General Post Office, Yokohama, Japan.

BROOKLYN, 2d rate, 14 guns, f. s. n. s., Capt. Byron Wilson. Arrived at Kobe Nov. 2. Probably spend the winter visiting the principal Chinese ports.

ESSEX, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. T. F. Jewell. Sailed from Nagasaki, Japan, Oct. 17, for Caroline Islands. Would be heard from next at Manila. Latest advices from the station are that the Essex has probably reached the Caroline Islands.

MARION, 3d rate, 8 guns, Comdr. N. M. Dyer. At Panama, Dec. 1. Expected to sail, Dec. 13, for Honolulu, via Corinto, Nicaragua, San Jose de Guatemala and Acapulco, en route to the Asiatic Station. The health of the crew is reported good, although yellow fever prevailed along the line of the canal during her stay at Panama.

MONOCACY, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. Henry Glass. At Yokohama, Japan, Oct. 21. Awaiting action of Secretary on Matthew's board of survey.

OMAHA, 2d rate, 13 guns, Captain F. V. McNair. At Chemulpo, Korea, Oct. 26. Was to leave there as soon as relieved by the Palos, and proceed to Panama.

PALOS, 4th rate, 6 howitzers. Lieut. Comdr. J. E. Craig. Left Kobe, Nov. 14, bound for Chemulpo, via Nagasaki. She will relieve the Omaha, and probably remain in Korean waters during the entire winter. Lieut. T. S. Phelps has reported for duty on the station, and has been ordered to the Palos as navigating officer.

## Apprentice Training Squadron.

JAMESTOWN, 3d rate, sails, 13 guns. Comdr. Chas. J. Train. At Navy-yard, Norfolk, Va.

MINNESOTA, 1st rate, 24 guns, Captain T. F. Kane. Receiving ship. Foot of W. 27th Street, North River. Entrance from W. 26th Street. P. O. address, Station E, New York.

NEW HAMPSHIRE, 1st rate, 16 guns, sails. Receiving ship of training squadron. Commander F. J. Higginson. Coaster's Island Harbor, Newport, R. I.

PORTSMOUTH, 3d rate, sails, 12 guns, Comdr. Edwin White. At the Navy-yard, New York.

SARATOGA, 3d rate, 13 guns, Comdr. Charles H. Davis. At Norfolk, Va.

**On Special Service.**

BOSTON, 3d rate, 8 guns, Captain F. M. Ramsay. At New York Navy-yard.

DESPATCH, 4th rate, Lieut. W. S. Cowles. At Washington, D. C., Dec. 2.

ENTERPRISE, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. B. H. McCalla. At the New York Navy-yard. She will make a tour of the world. She will go by way of the Mediterranean as soon as Comdr. McCalla's duties as a member of the Stevenson court-martial are concluded.

FORTUNE, tug, Lieutenant O. E. Lasher. At New York Navy-yard undergoing repairs.

MICHIGAN, 4th rate, 8 guns, Commander H. F. Picking. At Erie, Pa.

NIPISIC, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. D. W. Mullan. At New York Navy-yard. Will receive orders to make a tour of the world. She may sail in about 10 days, and will make the trip by way of the Straits of Magellan.

RANGER, 3d rate, 4 guns, Comdr. F. A. Cook. Making surveys on the coast of Southern California. At San Diego, Cal., Dec. 7.

ST. MARY'S, sails, 8 guns, Comdr. A. S. Crowninshield. N. Y. School ship. At New York City.

TRENTON, 3d rate, 10 guns, Capt. N. H. Farquhar. At New York Navy-yard. It is expected that the Trenton will leave New York Jan. 1, 1888, for Panama as flagship of the Pacific Station.

**Receiving Ships, Iron-Clads, Etc.**

FRANKLIN, 1st rate, 26 guns, Capt. G. C. Wiltse. Receiving ship. At Norfolk, Va.

INDEPENDENCE, 3d rate, sails, 6 guns, Commander J. W. Philip. Receiving ship. At Mare Island, Cal.

RESCUE, 4th rate, Mate Samuel F. Lomax. Used as a fire tug. Washington, D. C.

ST. LOUIS, 3d rate, sails, Capt. H. B. Seely. Receiving ship. League Island, Pa.

WABASH, 1st rate, 26 guns, Captain Joseph N. Miller. Receiving ship. Boston, Mass.

VERMONT, 2d rate, 7 guns, Capt. Wm. A. Kirkland. Receiving ship. At New York.

DALE, 8 guns, Commander Yates Stirling. Receiving ship. At Washington, D. C.

PHLOX, Naval Academy Tug, Mate B. G. Perry in command. At Annapolis, Md.

MAYFLOWER, Mate H. Kuhl, commanding. At Norfolk.

The iron-clads *Ajax*, *Catakill*, *Lehigh*, *Mahopac*, *Manhattan* and *Wyandotte*, are laid up at City Point, Va.

**Naval Vessels Fitting Out to go into Commission.**

Scutara—At Portsmouth, N. H. Will probably be assigned to duty on the North Atlantic Station. Repairs have been completed and the vessel is ready for a steam trial.

Chicago—At New York. Left the Navy-yard, Dec. 15, for a trial trip in Long Island Sound.

Kearsarge—At Portsmouth, N. H., being repaired. Will not be ready for sea till about June, 1888.

Hatford—Repairs will not be made until legislative action is secured.

**VARIOUS NAVAL ITEMS.**

SOME comment has been elicited by the discovery that the bottom plating of the steel cruiser *Atlanta* shows unmistakable signs of the ship's having been aground on a rocky bottom long enough to displace considerable of the cement on the inside, as well as to bend one or more of the athwartship bulkheads to an appreciable extent. Up to the present time it is not definitely known whether any of the ship's frames are injured, but enough has been ascertained to render it certain that considerable work will be required to give the ship a fair bottom and true lines.

A QUIET investigation is being made as to the reasons necessitating repairs on the *Trenton* so soon after she was fitted out for a three years' cruise. The *Trenton* was in the hands of the officers of the Norfolk Navy-yard for nearly a year before she started on her trip for Rio. This trip consumed but a few months, and yet she is now to undergo considerable repairing at New York. When the vessel left Norfolk she was reported to be in good condition. An effort will be made to fix the responsibility for the manner in which the work was done.

THE fine Herreshoff steam cutter destined to replace the present receiving ship launch, has been lying near the Cob Dock landing, Brooklyn, this week, and has attracted a great deal of attention on account of the graceful design and outline, and the lightness with which the little craft rests on the water. Although the machinery is somewhat small for the displacement of the boat, it is expected that her fine lines and an efficient propeller will enable a speed of nearly ten knots to be made in smooth water. The boat is of cedar, coppered, with a bronze stem and interior fittings of cedar and mahogany.

WORK on the *Trenton* to fit her for sea is nearing completion, and it is expected that by Christmas Day she will be about ready to sail. Considerable work, however, remains to be done in connection with her search-light dynamo; but it is not likely that her departure will be materially delayed on that account. Curiosity is rife as to the destination of the *Trenton*, the balance of opinion seeming to be on the side of a South Pacific cruise as flagship. There are those on board, however, who feel well-grounded in the belief that the Mediterranean is to be the ultimate destination. Whichever station receives her will be fortunate.

THE docking of the *Richmond*, which it was hoped might have been accomplished by the present week, is still delayed by some difficulty with the pumping machinery of the dock. As soon as the necessary work is done, the *Richmond* will proceed south for a winter cruise. It is feared by some that an examination of her bottom may reveal the necessity for more work than is at present contemplated, for the condition of the timbers and planking, so far as examined, indicates considerable decay.

WORK on the new Ordnance Shop at the Washington Yard has, thanks to the mild weather of the winter so far, made good progress, but no further masonry construction will be carried on until after the freezing weather is over. During the coming year it is likely that rapid progress will be made at this Yard, and all the plant which can be utilized will be required to keep up with the demands for guns and fittings on the new ships already completed and to be built.

THE Secretary of the Treasury has sent a letter to the Speaker of the House concerning the need of a marine hospital at the port of New York, in accordance with the clause in the last Sundry Civil Appropriation bill. He cites the reports of his predecessors to Congress on this subject, which, he says, seemed to have escaped the attention of the framers of the law. Reference is also made to a letter from Secretary Whitney, stating that the Navy Department has no land under its control which can be transferred to the Treasury Department as a site for the hospital without prejudice to the interests of the Service. It is recommended that Congress make an appropriation of \$250,000 to enable the Secretary of the Treasury to establish a marine hospital at New York.

WORK on the steam-steering gear of the U. S. S. *Enterprise* is nearly completed, and as soon as some necessary work in the dry dock shall have been finished, it is expected that she will proceed to join the squadron under command of Rear Admiral Greer. Comdr. McCalla has begun an excellent innovation in constructing a wheel-house and chart-room on the bridge forward of the smoke-pipe. His example is to be followed by Comdr. Mullan, of the *Nipisic*, and it is probable that the other ships of this class will be improved in the same way. Taken altogether, it is believed that the *Enterprise* is to-day one of the best of the wooden ships remaining in the Navy, and if but one or two modern guns could be substituted for the obsolete smooth-bore battery at present mounted on board, this ship would compare favorably with many modern vessels of similar displacement.

CHIEF-CONSTRUCTOR WILSON has about concluded that the best way to dispose of the condemned *New York*, which has so long cumbered the ground, and occupied valuable space at the New York Navy-yard, is to break the vessel under Government supervision, work in as much of the material as is practicable for Navy uses, sell the rest, and so dispose of an eyesore of many years' standing. The work, however, will scarcely be inaugurated until next spring; and as soon as the vessel is removed, he will recommend that the venerable ship-house wherein the *New York* lies be torn down, to be replaced in due course by either a newer and improved edifice for the same uses, or such other construction as may be required at that time. Unless something of the kind is done, there is danger that a catastrophe may ensue during a gale or heavy storm, involving not only destruction of property but loss of life. It is understood that Constructor Pook is favorable to the proposed disposition of both ship and house.

COMPLETE plans for hulls and machinery of two ships of war have lately been received by the Secretary of the Navy from Sir Edward Reed, of England, and are attracting considerable attention from officers of the Department. These plans were furnished by Sir Edward Reed in accordance with an arrangement with Secretary Whitney by which the designer was to be reimbursed for all expenses involved in their preparation. He had been invited to present plans in competition with others for the prize offered for the plans for the battle ship and armored cruiser, but he declined to enter, and the agreement above mentioned was made. The two plans submitted are similar in every respect, except that one is for a 6,300 ton vessel and the other a 7,010 tons. The vessels may be briefly described as high freeboard turret ships, with protective decks of dome shape. Vertical mounted cylinder, triple expansion engines are planned for them. Sir Edward Reed, the designer, was at one time director of construction in the British Navy. He resigned his position because he would not countenance the construction of the *Captain*, a vessel designed by Capt. Coles, of the British Navy. The vessel was afterwards constructed in accordance with Capt. Coles's plans, and capsized with 400 people on board, not one of whom was saved. The Government, appreciating the service of Sir Charles after his retirement, awarded him \$50,000 from the public treasury.

**NAVY GAZETTE.****Ordered.**

DEC. 12.—Captain Wm. E. Fitzhugh, to examination for promotion.

Ensign Chas. C. Marsh, to duty at the Naval Observatory.

Lieutenant Kossuth Niles, to ordnance duty at the Washington Navy yard December 30.

Lieutenant E. E. Wright, to the training-ship *Saratoga*.

P. A. Engineer Jefferson Brown, to the *Yantic*.

Sailmaker M. W. Watkins, as inspector of steel for the new cruisers at Pittsburgh, Pa.

DEC. 14.—Medical Inspector A. Hudson, to the *Trenton*.

Pay Inspector A. S. Kenny, appointed member of the Brown Consolidation Board, vice Billings, on sick leave.

**Detached.**

DEC. 12.—Lieutenant Chas. T. Forse, from duty on the Coast Survey and ordered to Pittsburgh, Pa., for duty as inspector of steel for the new cruisers.

Commanders Geo. W. Sumner, W. S. Dana and James G. Green. Lieutenant-Commanders George B. Livingston, W. W. Reisinger and Wm. B. Newman. Lieutenants Richardson Clover and Lucien Young, from duty at the Naval War College, December 22, and placed on waiting orders.

Lieutenant C. McR. Winslow, from the Naval War College and ordered to advanced course in torpedo instruction.

Ensign A. W. Dodd, from duty in Coast Survey and ordered to the training-ship *Saratoga*.

Ensign W. M. Constant, from the Naval War College, December 24, and ordered to the *Wabash*.

P. A. Engineer J. P. Mickleby, from the *Yantic* and placed on waiting orders.

Carpenter John L. Davis, from the *Jamestown* and placed on waiting orders.

Carpenter James Burke from the Navy-yard Boston to the *Jamestown*.

Carpenter Milton F. Roberts, from the *Franklin* to waiting orders.

DEC. 14.—Lieutenant-Commander A. S. Snow from the Naval War College, December 22, and ordered as member of the Board of Inspection and Survey January 1 next.

Medical Inspector N. L. Bates, from the *Trenton* and placed on waiting orders.

**MARINE CORPS.**

Leave granted Captain F. H. Corrie, retired, is further extended one year from February 19, 1888, with permission to leave the United States.

1st Lieutenant T. G. Fillette, detached from the Marine Barracks, Pensacola, Fla., and ordered to Brooklyn, N. Y., to take command of the Marine Guard of the *Nipisic*.

2d Lieutenant Jas. E. Mahoney, has been granted leave for 30 days, at the expiration of which he is ordered to duty at the Marine Barrack, Portsmouth, N. H.

1st Lieutenant H. C. Fisher, detached from the *Nipisic* at the Navy-yard New York, and will report in arrest to the commandant of the Navy-yard there, to await the action of the Navy Department on the finding and sentence of the General Court-martial.

**CASUALTIES.**

Deaths reported to the Surgeon-General of the Navy during the week ending Dec. 14, 1887:

Patrick Lannigan, landsman, died December 8, at Naval Hospital, Norfolk, Va.

John Walker, boatswain, retired, died December 5, at Vallejo, Cal.

**FROM THE EUROPEAN STATION.**

In a letter from Rear Admiral Greer he states that since Oct. 20 the *Pennacola* has visited Jaffa, Beirut, Smyrna and Piræus, at which place she arrived Nov. 23. At Smyrna he shifted his flag from the *Pennacola* to the *Quinnabeg* and visited Constantinople, returning to Smyrna Nov. 18, when his flag was again hoisted on board the *Pennacola*. Since last report the *Quinnabeg* has visited Sidon, Tripoli, Latakia, Ayar Bay and Messyn. At Smyrna Comdr. Folger was given orders to be at Genoa with the *Quinnabeg* on or before Dec. 10, visiting in the meantime such intermediate ports as he might deem advisable. He proposed to leave Piræus, Greece, Nov. 24, and expected to arrive at Genoa Dec. 1. The *Quinnabeg* left Smyrna Nov. 17 with orders to be at Genoa on or before Dec. 10. The *Pennacola* will be started for home as soon as possible.

**REVENUE MARINE.**

DEC. 9.—The revenue steamer *Dexter*, Capt. L. N. Stodder, commanding, boarded the *Bark Sarah Doe*, of New York, from Havana for Boston, Merryman, master, sugar laden, and found her with windlass disabled and anchored off a lee shore, wind N. E., and a prospect of bad weather, was requested by the master to be towed to a place of safety and where he could make the needed repairs. She was taken in tow by the *Dexter* and anchored off Vineyard Haven with the thanks of the master—and so the good work goes on.

The revenue cutter *Samuel Dexter*, which has just returned to Newport, reports the rescue of *bark Sarah Doe*, of New York, from Havana for Boston, which was picked up in a disabled condition by the cutter and towed with considerable difficulty into Vineyard Haven.

Nominations to the Senate, December 12, 1877: To be Captains—Leander M. Keene, Frederick M. Munger, Jefferson A. Siam, and Dorr F. Tozier; Percy W. Thompson, to be a 2d lieutenant; Owen S. Willey and George E. McConnell, to be 1st lieutenants; Horace Hassell, to be a chief-engineer; Charles W. Munroe and William H. Warren, to be 1st assistant engineers; Denis F. Bowen and Orrick N. Turner, to be 2d assistant engineers.

The following are the assignments of Revenue Marine officers made this week:

2d Lieut. W. S. Howland from the *Manhattan* and placed on waiting orders.

2d Lieut. J. C. Harris, from the *Manhattan* to the *Dix*.

2d Asst. Engr. Willis Pedrick, from the *Manhattan* and placed on waiting orders.

2d Asst. Engr. T. B. Brown, from the *Dix* and placed on waiting orders.

2d Lieut. Geo. A. York, from the *Hamilton* and granted sick leave.

2d Lieut. H. M. Broadbent, from the *Forward* to temporary duty on the *Hamilton*.

The following is the list of assignments of Revenue Marine cadets who recently graduated: Cadet S. M. Landrey, to steamer *Forward*, at Mobile; Cadet R. O. Crisp, to steamer *Dallas*, at Portland; Cadet E. P. Berthoff, to steamer *Woodbury*, at Eastport; Cadet W. V. E. Jacobs, to steamer *Grant*, at New York; Cadet P. H. Ueberoth, to steamer *Dexter*, at Newport; Cadet A. J. Henderson, to steamer *Gallatin*, at Boston.

The chief of the Revenue Marine Division has been informed of the death of 1st Lieut. Geo. Williams, at his home, in New Bedford, Mass., on Dec. 10, of apoplexy. The deceased commanded the *Guthrie* until September last when he was granted sick leave.

THE Navy life-boat board, to which was referred Rear Admiral Ammen's communication concerning his "balsa," or life-raft, has reported that while the "balsa" possesses the life-saving qualities claimed for it by the Admiral, yet it would not be advisable to adopt the raft for use on modern men-of-war, because of its size and the difficulty of steering it.

A PRIVATE letter from Prof. Workman, of Washington, who has been sent by the Government to Arizona to articulate the skeletons found in the buried city unearthed by Frank Cushing, states that the skeletons are about a thousand years old.

BAKER PASHA's death was due to an acute attack of angina pectoris, which came upon him while he was recovering in Egypt from a fever of uncertain type.

THE appointment prophets have named Capt. H. W. Lawton, 4th Cavalry, commanding Fort Myer, Va., for the next Junior Inspector-Generalship, which occurs upon the retirement of Gen. Baird next spring. Col. Jones will, without doubt, succeed to the senior place.

THE class of seamen gunners under instruction at the Torpedo Station has nearly completed its work and the several members have received appointments as follows: Henry J. Tresselt, Theodore Mann, H. Kitchen, N. Peterson and H. Phillips to New York; C. Morgan and J. Cook to training ship *New Hampshire*, and L. Perry to remain at the Station.

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ARMYNAVY.

**WHAT'S IN A NAME.**

THERE is a singular coincidence in regard to the  
British gunboat lately reported lost, to which we  
have already alluded. On September 23, 1884,  
H. M. gunboat *Wasp* was wrecked on the north-  
west coast of Ireland, with the loss of all hands  
excepting six men (one of them that usually for-  
tunate functionary, the ship's cook). The Admir-  
alty, with commendable economy of invention,  
clapped the same name upon a new steel gunboat  
launched at Elswick last year, and upon her first  
commission sent her to China. She got as far as  
Singapore without special mishap or adventure;  
sailed from that port for Hong Kong or Shanghai  
on September 10, 1887, and has not been heard of  
since. The seas and islands in every direction have  
been searched in vain; not a vestige of the vessel or  
her crew has been found.

Thus the new *Wasp*, with all on board, was lost  
in a typhoon almost precisely three years after the  
wreck of the vessel whose name she bore.

This was, of course, only a coincidence. And  
yet, why should the Admiralty have cursed a new  
ship with a name of evil omen, when there were  
so many other bugs and insects—if their lordships

must insist upon borrowing from the realms of  
entomology—that were in no way connected with so  
recent and so sad an occurrence as that with which  
the name of *Wasp* was associated in the British  
Navy? Who does not know how often the fate of  
their immediate predecessors must have been refer-  
red to by the crew of this unfortunate vessel,  
and how often she must have been "damned for an  
unlucky ship" when things went wrong, as they  
always do, some time or another, in every craft? It  
is all very well to say that no ill luck attended the  
earlier *Wasps* of the beginning of the century.  
Men's minds do not go back so far in these matters;  
but they know and remember the disasters that  
have befallen within their own memories.

After all, there is a good deal in a name, as every  
seafaring man knows; and "if it should ever meet  
the eye" of the personage in our own Navy Depart-  
ment who will be responsible for christening the  
new bantlings now being brought forward for the  
Naval Service, let us hope that he will take this fact  
and Jack's prejudices into consideration before pro-  
ceeding to the discharge of that important duty and  
giving names to those vessels now known only by  
numbers. Let us have names in the New Navy  
that suggest honorable and valiant deeds, and use-  
ful service to the country in the days of the Old  
Navy. They never grow old and men never tire of  
them. Modern Philistinism cannot kill the worthy  
sentiments that are inspired by the memory of great  
deeds. There are ships in commission to-day, in  
the British Service, whose names figured in the  
fight with the Spanish Armada and in many a bat-  
tle since; and the names of those battles are printed  
under the names of the ships in the quarterly Navy  
List.

Many good, old, characteristic names have lapsed  
on our Navy Register which the Service and the  
country would gladly see revived in modern ves-  
sels, and the officers and men of the Navy of to-day  
would be proud to be connected with. What better  
or more suggestive ones are there now on the list  
than *Constitution*, *Hartford*, *Essex*, *Kearsarge*?  
May they never disappear from it. But let us have  
no *Hurons* or *Oneidas*, no *Somers*, no *Albany*.  
Let the names of dead ships be buried with them,  
not from superstitions motives, but as a matter of  
sentiment. Rather than have them revived, we  
would prefer to see the roll of American towns in  
the Navy Register go on increasing (if the country  
could get a new steel ship for each of them) until  
even *Oshkosh* and *Mauch Chunk* and *Kansas*  
City shall have each its representative afloat, a ter-  
ror to the enemies of our great country.

**FAILURE OF A DE BANGE GUN.**

WE give here an interesting extract from the  
*Brussels Journal* about a matter which somehow or  
other has failed to attract the attention it deserves.  
The largest De Bange gun yet constructed—of the  
well known built-up type—interior tube and ex-  
terior hoops, so highly esteemed by our own mili-  
tary authorities—has failed, and failed in a manner  
that even the non-expert can understand. Colonel  
De Bange's enunciates the false theory of construc-  
tion that underlies his system, "but as this part  
of the gun is little strained." It seems to us a chain  
is no stronger than its weakest link, and that, there-  
fore, nearly the whole length of the gun should be  
strong enough to resist longitudinal stress. In our  
judgment, in this lies the weak point of the French  
system of construction, the banding principle, too  
much longitudinal strain is thrown either upon the  
tube or upon the somewhat delicate screw breech  
mechanism. This accounts for the failures of the  
system in England and in France:

(From the "Journal de Bruxelles.")

We announced yesterday that the beautiful De  
Bange gun, which excited so much admiration at the  
Antwerp Exhibition, had burst at Calais. Mr.  
L. de Macar, the Belgian agent of the Cal Company  
(of which Col. De Bange is superintendent), con-  
ceives himself injured by this simple announce-  
ment. He has written us a letter in regard to the  
matter, and threatens a libel suit. We reply to our  
correspondent that we have mentioned neither him,  
nor his company, nor his method of construction,  
nor his superintendent; we have merely given an  
item of news, and have said nothing wounding to  
Col. De Bange, (a burst gun usually wounds only its  
cannoneers). The De Bange gun is a product of in-  
dustry—not a person. However, to oblige Mr. de  
Macar, who is a nice gentleman, we will give "liter-  
ally," as he demands, the essential portion of his let-  
ter. We omit only so much of his letter as refers to

the press; this, on its part, can invoke the law. Here, then, are Mr. de Macar's explanations:

"The 14-inch De Bange was subjected at Calais in August to a series of experiments to determine its qualities. This model was intended to fire a 925 lbs. projectile, with a velocity of 2,030 feet without straining the gun, or giving greater pressures than 35,000 lbs. The carriage stood the test without the slightest injury, although its strength was doubted, considering the small weight of the gun. The primers worked well, completely closing the vent, and being easily extracted by hand. It must be noted that these results have been obtained with a gun weighing only about 41 tons, that is only about 88 times more than its projectile, while similar French marine and foreign guns weigh twice as much, and, further, in these guns, the pressures exceed 35,000 lbs. On the 4th of August the experiments were about ended, and there remained only five rounds to be fired, when a regrettable accident happened to the gun, without, however, invalidating any of the conclusions just mentioned. Here are the facts. During the hammering and assembling, Col. De Bange noticed a weak spot at about the middle of the tube; but as this part of the gun is little strained, and as he was pressed for time on account of the approaching opening of the Antwerp Exposition—when the gun was to be exhibited—Col. De Bange gave the order to finish the gun.

"The tube parted at this very point—on the third round of Aug. 4; there were no bursts. The metal of the tube held by the frets did not fly, a proof of the excellence of the hooping method used. The firing was under angle of 10 deg.; the first two rounds gave a range of 9,300 yards, and the third, at which the gun ruptured, only 200 yards less.

This accident is of no moment as regards the qualities of the system. A new gun of the same type is now under construction and will soon appear on the proving ground."

Mr. de Macar admits the "regrettable accident," but seeks to explain it away as advantageous as possible for his employers. The public will appreciate.

#### THE FIFTIETH CONGRESS.

THE second week of the session has passed by without developing any event of special interest to the Army or Navy, and with very little work accomplished by either house. The House adjourned from Tuesday until Friday, and again to Dec. 19. The Senate was in session from Monday until Thursday. During this time about 800 bills and resolutions were introduced and referred to committees. All the bills relating to the two Services have figured in previous Congresses. The Manderson, three battalion bill is again presented in the same form as last year.

No bills were introduced in the House, and probably will not be until after the holidays, when the committees will be announced. There are no new developments in regard to the organization of the military and naval committees of the House. All speculation points to the appointment of Mr. Wheeler as chairman of the former, and Mr. Herbert to again preside over the Naval Committee. None of the Army and Navy nominations have yet reached the Senate. A long list of Army appointments and promotions left the Secretary of War's office for the White House on Thursday, but did not get any further. The batch embraces all the recess appointments and promotions. And, in addition, the promotions in the Medical Corps following Col. Perin's retirement; those in the Engineer Corps, consequent upon Capt. Payson's resignation; those in the 5th Artillery vice Van Reed, retired; and the promotions of 2d Lieut. R. M. Blatchford, 11th Inf., vice Handforth, dismissed, and 2d Lieut. John F. McBlain, 9th Cav., to the vacancy in the 9th Cavalry, which has existed in the grade of 1st lieutenant since last spring. The latter officer, it will be remembered, was rejected at the last session of the Senate, and in consequence of such action the War Department has been slow in acting in his case. It was lately decided by the Secretary of War, however, to follow out the course pursued in the Simpson case, viz.: to continue nominating the rejected officer to each recurring vacancy until he is either confirmed or disposed of in some other way. With the exception of the McBlain case and the promotions in the Medical Department, it is not expected that any of the Army nominations will meet with opposition either in committee or in the Senate.

It is now obvious that the contracts for building our new war vessels cannot be completed within the time specified and the contractors are exerting every effort to secure an extension so as to avoid the heavy penalties resulting from delay. This extension ought not to be allowed, and to permit the pressure of contractors to move the Department from its purpose not to allow it, is to repeat and perpetuate the regime of contractors' control in the naval bureaus which has been so much criticised

and which we have been so faithfully promised should be ended. We hope that the bureau officers will unite with the Secretary of the Navy in resisting the pressure. To fail to do so is to transfer to them and to the naval service the criticism which belongs elsewhere. It is of the first importance that this should not be permitted if Congress is to be asked to still further extend its liberality for the building up of the Navy. The contract on one of the vessels, the gunboat No. 2, building at the Columbian Iron Works expires next week, Dec. 22. The dates for the expiration of the contracts with the names of the builders are as follows:

Gunboat No. 1, Cramp.....	Jan. 31, 1888
Dynamite Boat, ".....	Feb. 11, 1888
Baltimore, (No. 3) ".....	June 27, 1888
Charleston, (No. 2), San Francisco.....	" 28, 1888
Gunboats 3 and 4, Cramp.....	May 16, 1888

The most advanced vessels are the *Charleston* and the *Baltimore*. On both several payments have been made, but the contractors themselves acknowledge that it will require much more time than they have at their disposal to put the finishing touches on these vessels.

FROM the manner in which Mr. Dolph takes hold of the subject of fortification and sea coast defences, it would seem that the matter will, at least, be pretty thoroughly agitated this winter. In explaining his bill to the Senate on December 14, Mr. Dolph said:

The people of this country are patiently waiting for Congress to apply some of the idle millions in the Treasury to provide for coast defences. The board on fortifications and other defences, appointed by the President under the provisions of the act of March 3, 1865, have recommended the immediate fortification of 27 ports. There are other ports at which fortifications are needed, but I presume that no one will dispute that the fortification of the 27 ports named is not only necessary but is urgent. Our experience in the matter of works for the improvement of rivers and harbors has demonstrated that it is impossible to carry on economically and successfully great public works by appropriations which are made from year to year. The changes in the political character of one or both branches of Congress, the differences of opinion upon these subjects, and above all the apparent political necessity for cutting down expenditures, render such appropriations uncertain and always unsatisfactory. I think every one will agree that if we are to enter upon this work at all it would be part of wisdom to appropriate in one bill the amount necessary for the fortifications undertaken for its expenditure from year to year, as has been recommended by the board on fortifications and other defences. The bill offered by me proceeds upon this principle. It is proposed to appropriate the sum of \$128,000,000, in round numbers, to be available as recommended by the board, \$21,500,000 the first year and \$9,000,000 annually for 11 years thereafter until the whole amount is expended.

Of the Morse cartridge, one company commander at Fort Hays, Kansas, says: "Can be reloaded three to six times, without rupture, and none of the shells fail to eject readily." Opposed to this verdict are ten company commanders stationed at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, Fort Lewis, Colo., and the new camp near Denver. From Highwood, near Chicago, and from Fort Missoula, M. T., come reports of five infantry captains, all of whom pronounce the cartridge made at Frankford Arsenal to be inferior in endurance and frequency of reloading to the Morse. For it are Companies E, 18th Infantry; F, 6th Infantry; D, 3d Infantry; I, 3d Infantry; F, 3d Infantry, and B, 3d Inf. Against it are the ten companies stationed at Fort Leavenworth, Kas.; Fort Lewis, Colo., and near Denver.

SECRETARY WHITNEY has entirely recovered his health and is in full charge of the Navy Department again. Commodore Harmony was relieved as Acting Secretary Dec. 15, on which date the bi-weekly meetings of the bureau chiefs were also discontinued.

THE *Marine Journal* says: "As a bit of a warning to those of our Washington authorities who would blindly follow the lines laid down by foreign builders of warships and great guns, it is well to note that the English papers state that the machinery trials of the new steel armor-plated cruiser *Narcissus* have 'again proved unsuccessful.' Viewed in the light of Captain Bunce's late report on the defects of the *Atlanta*, and its sister ship, the *Boston*, built on the same lines yet untested, this information shows that absolute perfection is not yet assured by following foreign models. And it is also interesting to note that American shipbuilders foretold a number of the defects in the *Atlanta*, demonstrated by the late trials. Would it not be well to build at least one warship on a thoroughly American model, untrammelled by foreign precedents where such should be counter to our own ideas? As we propose to build our own vessels, let them be American in model as well as in material, and we have faith that our builders will not betray the trust."

THE orders recently issued by Rear Admiral Lee on the subject of great gun target practice need but little explanation, as the record is very explicit, and but little remains to be said on that score. Too much, however, cannot be said of the success that has attended the departure from old methods, in which it was "hurry up and let's get through with the quarter's target firing," anything to expend the allowance in as short a time as possible, in order to start up the galley fires and not have breakfast delayed. Each vessel had her own independent method of carrying out the practice and very little was gained from the diagrams forwarded to the Department as a history of what had taken place. The limited time allowed by the movements of the vessels during the past summer did not allow of the development of the entire system. This is to begin with sighting and aiming drills on shipboard, then small arm practice, and a selection from those most proficient to fill the position of gun captains of the large guns. To carry out this progressive scheme will necessitate establishing a range at some convenient place to which the vessels can repair in turn and go through all the preliminary drills before coming together for the competitive firing, both for the individual and battery practice. The plan of the winning vessel carrying a pennant to distinguish her for proficiency in "battery practice" and the presentation of a medal to the gun captain carrying off the honors at "individual practice" have added greatly to the interest, and it is hoped that the Ordnance Bureau will in the future take up this matter of awarding prizes and distinguishing badges for those who excel at the different classes of practice. The record of individual practice shows how much celerity enters in the race and although the targets made by two of the modern high-powered guns of the *Atlanta* were really the best; when the time allowance was considered the old fashioned smooth-bore 9-in. gun won. The finer sights and flatter trajectory of the modern weapon prove how powerful a gun it is, and when the guns' crews have become better accustomed to the manipulation of the piece the great stride that has been made in our Naval ordnance will be apparent to all.

THE *Critic*, expatiating upon the advantages of Washington, D. C., as a place of residence, includes the following: It has now as a resident a fine looking, level-headed man, with an iron spinal column, as Chief Magistrate of the Nation, who compares favorably with the long line of his illustrious predecessors. And the handsome young wife of the Chief Executive, by her modest demeanor, ladylike deportment and true womanly instincts, adds an important additional charm to the society of the national seat of Government. It furnished more recruits to aid the Government in putting down the rebellion, in proportion to its population, than any State in the Union, with the single exception of Kansas. It supplied the Confederacy with more volunteers, in proportion to its population, than any locality north of the Potomac. It contains more distinguished statesmen who have "the ear of the President"—under all administrations—than there are tad-poles in a Western fever-and-ague swamp. It is the headquarters of the Army and Navy, and the domicile of a great many of the officers and their families. It has more aesthetic dancers, waltzers and leaders of the German (including the Marine Corps) than the proud Army and Navy of any other nation can turn out. The Nation's Monument to George Washington, recently completed, is the loftiest structure ever erected by human hands. It contains more office seekers to the square foot than there are shelds in a Sunday contribution box. It has the best draw poker players in existence. Its local military companies are the best-looking, best-equipped, drilled and disciplined of any in the country.

WE some time since noticed the volume published by Captain Henry Metcalfe, O. D., U. S. Army, elaborating a system of keeping manufacturing accounts. The system has been adopted at the Torpedo Station, Newport, and at the Ordnance Office, Washington, with the most satisfactory result. In an endorsement upon a communication from the Bureau Commander, C. F. Goodrich, Inspector of Ordnance, says: "The enclosed pamphlet indicates briefly the extent to which the Metcalfe system has been employed at this station. To this extent our experience is highly satisfactory. Enclosed is a pamphlet of 4½ pages, giving all the fundamental points." Commander A. H. McCormick, Inspector of Ordnance at the Washington Navy yard, says: "A card system of shop administration (consisting of the order card, the material card, and the service card) predicated upon that described in Captain Metcalfe's book, entitled 'Cost of Manufactures,' was introduced here in February last, stripped, however, of all its symbolism and much of its minutiae and adapted to our system of office accounts. It has materially facilitated the foreman in his duties, resulted in a more exact distribution of labor

and material expended upon manufactures, and reduced the labors of the cost clerks. In its working the system is eminently satisfactory."

It is understood that Major Asa Bird Gardner, Judge Advocate, who is now on duty as a member of the personal staff of the Secretary of War, will shortly be retired for disability. He was before the Washington Retiring Board Dec. 3d inst., and was reported incapacitated for further service. His disability is officially pronounced chronic dyspepsia and nervous prostration. His retirement will give the President the appointment of a major and the Judge Advocate General's Department and the Secretary of War the detail of another law officer to duty in his office. Pending action of Congress on his recommendation for a Solicitor, it is understood that the Secretary will continue to keep one of the Judge Advocates on duty at the War Department.

An English paper has the following: German Army.—Number of troops, 428,104; cost, £18,850,000; 2 field marshals (Count Moltke and the Crown Prince), 59 generals, 76 lieutenant generals, 117 major generals, 216 colonels, 210 lieutenant colonels, and 906 majors. British Army.—Number of troops, 198,000; cost, £18,232,000; 6 field marshals, 41 generals, 157 lieutenant generals, 183 major generals, 800 colonels, 450 lieutenant colonels, 1,150 majors, and 400 broken-winded, tin pot wooden-legged, or otherwise useless half-pay generals.

The Society of the Sons of the Revolution duly celebrated Dec. 9 in New York City the one hundred and fourth anniversary of the parting of Gen. Washington from his officers. The following officers for the ensuing year were elected: President, Frederick S. Tallmadge; Vice-President, Elbridge T. Gerry; Secretary, James Mortimer Montgomery; Treasury, Arthur Melvin Hatch; Register, Asa Coolidge Warren; Board of Managers, John B. Ireland, Floyd Clarkson, George Clinton Genet, H. W. Le Roy, James Duane Livingston, George Parsons Lathrop, John C. Jav. Jr., M. D.; the Rev. Brockholst Morgan, D. B. St. John Roose, M. D.

With the Sons of the Revolution, the Cincinnati, the Grand Army of the Republic, the Union Veteran Legion, the Sons of Veterans, who says this is not a martial-minded nation, remarks the *Pittsburgh Chronicle*. Come to think of it, what organization keeps green the memories of the War of 1812? Is there any except that of the faithful Democrats who celebrate St. Jackson's Day and make it more political than military? The treaty-makers gave away all the glory won in that war, and that is probably why its memory is neglected.

The Army Register for 1888 is all in print, and with the exception of the changes to be noted between now and Jan. 1 may be said to be completed. Its appearance may be looked for about the middle of January.

The long-deferred tour of inspection by Secretary Endicott to the Fort Leavenworth Military Prison is now set down for Dec. 16. The Secretary will be accompanied by Adjt.-General Drum and Captain Taylor, Ordnance Department. They will be absent about a week.

#### DAMAGE TO THE MARE ISLAND DRY DOCK.

(Special telegram to the N. Y. Tribune.)

About a fortnight ago, when the French man-of-war *Duquesne* was successfully docked at Mare Island, there was much congratulation over the fact that the new stone dry dock had borne the weight of the great French vessel, apparently without strain. To-day, however, it was learned that a dangerous crack had appeared in the dock and that the settling of the mouth had split in two one of the great granite blocks.

The dock was built of concrete and is now only partly faced with granite. It was constructed on filled ground, and by some strange error while the greater part of the foundation was furnished with piles, about fifty feet of one end was unprovided with such support. The dock was built in two sections, and this part nearest the caisson has begun to settle, while the main part remains intact. The fissure in the concrete runs diagonally from the top of the dock to the granite, and one large stone on the twelfth altar of the course and thirty feet from the end is broken clean through.

The stone is two feet wide by two in thickness, and six feet long. A case knife can be inserted in the fissure. This fissure has been closed several times recently with cement, and the greatest care been taken to prevent news of it getting out. Experts in concrete who have viewed it declare it to be dangerous, and say nothing can be done to repair the damage. Some assert that when the caisson is removed the outer portion of the dock is liable to fall out into the water. The great pressure of water against the caisson is sufficient to keep everything in place, but when the caisson is withdrawn trouble is feared. The dock has already cost \$3,000,000, and the cost of completing it is half a million more.

The *Galena* arrived at Norfolk Dec. 15. Commodore Walker has gone to Newport. R. I.

#### THE STEVENSON COURT OF INQUIRY.

ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF MELVILLE has been the principal witness before the Stevenson court thus far. He testified that Pay Director Stevenson urged the sale of the boilers, which are the subject of investigation, and after some demur he acquiesced in the sale, but was particular to say that it must be by due process of law. He did not see the boilers, and did not know they were from the *Richmond*. He was aware that nothing should be sold without proper authorization and advertisement, and that is why he agreed to the sale only under that proviso. He knew he was treading on dangerous ground. Comdr. McGowan, aid to the commandant of the yard, was the next witness. He stated that Pay Inspector Stevenson, Carpenter Toy and himself were ordered to take charge of the sale of certain condemned launches, cutters and other small boats on Nov. 12. The boats were all sold to highest bidder except one gig, which was withdrawn by Admiral Gherardi, and afterwards sold, but did not know to whom. Thought the price obtained was the same as that paid at auction for a similar gig. Several witnesses swore that they had seen fellow workmen in the yard placing new rope and hawsers among condemned goods, and when asked why they did it were told that Mr. Stevenson had ordered it.

The boilers were sold for \$400. Chief-Eng. Moore thought they would sell at private sale for \$900. It was further testified that the bill of sale was not dated, that the old-iron stock was short over twenty thousand pounds, and that Weighmaster Anderson allowed W. J. Garvey to sign weigh slips and deliver goods without authority. Clerk McNulty testified that he was ordered to make out bills for goods not sold, and he had marked the entries of such in red ink for his own protection.

"Did you report these discrepancies officially?" asked the Judge Advocate.

"Yes, sir."

"To whom?"

"To the Department by letter."

"Why did you not report them to the General Storekeeper?"

"It wouldn't do. He might report me."

The witness furnished for the information of the Court several of the papers used at the yard, which, when signed by the clerk and a commissioned officer, certify to removal of goods, together with their quantity, from the yard. Documents of this description were produced, which had been signed by Clerk W. H. Garvey only, thus defeating the object of the regulation requiring the signature and supervision of the commissioned officer.

#### LATE ARMY ORDERS.

Six months sick leave has been granted Captain Thomas C. Lebo, 6th Cav. 2d Lieutenant James H. Waters, 20th Inf., is granted further extension of leave, to include Jan. 1. Sick leave of 1st Lieut. Wm. A. Mann, 17th Inf., is extended three months. (S. O., H. Q. A., Dec. 16.)

**Recruits.**—The superintendent of the recruiting service will cause forty recruits to be forwarded for assignment to the 4th Cavalry; forty to the Department of the Missouri for assignment to the 5th Cavalry, and twenty colored cavalry recruits to the Department of Arizona for the 10th Cavalry.—S. O., Dec. 14, H. Q. A.)

A RETIRING Board, consisting of Major Nicholson, Captains Pope and Reid, of the United States Marine Corps, and Surgeons Woolverton and White, of the Navy, with Lieut. Stayton as recorder, has been ordered to meet at the Navy Department on Dec. 16, to examine 1st Lieut. H. S. Gibson, of the Marine Corps, for retirement.

LIEUTENANT A. W. DODD, U. S. Navy, was married in New York City, Dec. 15, to Miss Margaret Alton Zachos, daughter of Dr. Zachos, curator of Cooper Union. The ceremony was performed at the residence of the bride's parents, 359 West 22d street. Ensign R. O. Bitler, U. S. N., was best man.

COMMANDER TRAIN, of the *Jamestown*, was in Washington on Wednesday, to endeavor, if possible, to prevail upon the Secretary to order that his vessel be repaired at the cost recommended by the Board of Survey.

COMMANDER HOFF, who was in Washington on Wednesday, says the *Ossipee* will sail in a few days for the West Indies.

COMMANDER N. M. DYER, commanding the *Marion*, under date of Panama Bay, Dec. 3, reports that he would sail from that port as soon as possible after the arrival of the Pacific Mail steamer with stores. The vessel will visit Nicaragua, and then Guatemala and Acapulco.

The following Army officers are registered at the War Department this week: Capt. P. D. Vroom, 3d Cav.; 2d Lt. J. Y. Mason Blunt, 5th Cav.; Col. W. W. Burns, A. C. G. S.; Lt. Col. D. Woodruff, Ret.; Lt. Col. Chas. A. Reynolds, Ret.; 1st Lt. R. P. Strong, 4th Art.; Col. W. P. Carlin, 4th Inf.; Maj. Gen. John M. Schofield; 1st Lt. J. Escourt Sawyer, 5th Art.; Capt. E. C. Bowen, Ret.; Col. J. M. Whittemore, Ord.

LORD BRASSEY'S yacht, the *Sunbeam*, on which Lady Brassey recently died at sea, while on a voyage to Australia, arrived at Portsmouth, England, Dec. 14.

ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF MELVILLE will return to Washington, D. C., from New York on Monday.

GENERAL THOMAS KILBY SMITH, a distinguished general officer of volunteers during the war, died at St. Luke's Hospital, New York city, December 14, of heart failure resulting from acute gastritis. At the close of the war he was brevetted major-general, and was subsequently appointed Consul at Panama, the last public position he held. He subsequently removed with his family to Torredale, near Philadelphia, where he had lived quietly until six months ago, when he came to New York and became engaged in the business department of the Star. General Smith was an active member of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion, and at one time was Junior Vice Commander of the Pennsylvania Commandery. He was married in 1848 to Miss Elizabeth B. McCullough, who, with eight children, survives him.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

#### NAVAL ACADEMY.

ANNAPOLIS, Dec. 14, 1887.

The weather has been mild thus far at the Academy, but, in pursuance of the programme, indoor drills began two weeks ago. These drills will be continued with but few changes until spring.

The first class is exercised at steam drill, and receives instruction in fencing and practical ordnance. The second class drills at steam with the first, and receives instruction in fencing and navy signals. The third and fourth classes have instruction in knotting and splicing by divisions, and the others are exercised at target practice, great-gun drill, and dancing.

In the evening Swordmaster Corbesier and his assistants have classes who receive extra instruction in fencing. Any cadet who can spare the time from his studies may receive these lessons.

The practical instruction is one of the features of the Academy that is almost peculiar to it, though both Government Academies have it as a part of the course. As every cadet must take it, a great part of the instruction intended to be of benefit after graduation is imparted in this way. The drills are always of interest to visitors, and it is unusual for a day to pass without the presence of persons watching the cadets in the steam building or fencing room.

The only change besides this is a slight alteration in the daily routine, by which dinner is earlier in the day, leaving three-quarters of an hour for recreation before afternoon studies. The cadets appreciate this interval, and will probably do so still more when warm weather comes.

The athletic sports for the fall are over as far as visiting rivals are concerned. On Wednesdays and Saturdays the cadets generally select two football teams, and these struggle for victory. It is thought that the cadets will give an athletic tournament during the winter.

The two hops given on the recent Saturday nights were both quiet affairs, although very enjoyable for all concerned. The first was impromptu, as it took one of the evenings set apart for the Dramatic Club, they having no entertainment prepared. The latter was one of the cadet series of hops, and resembled those of its kind so well known to the regular attendants. Of course the officers and cadets were present in full force, and numerous visitors were attracted notwithstanding the fact that it was one of the "10 o'clock" variety. It seems a pity that these cadet hops, so enjoyable to all, should close at such early hours. Even the balls given on holidays must end at 11 o'clock, and this is just as everyone is fairly aroused and ready for dancing.

Visitors from the neighboring cities cannot accompany themselves to arrive early, and in consequence a hop is of short duration for a greater part of those present. At the last hop many persons did not come until 9 o'clock, and, as it closed promptly at 10, there was scarcely time to become accustomed to the floor and music. It would seem as if there hops might be held on to a later hour, or that visitors might learn to come on time.

On Thursday evening of last week, Mrs. Bartlett gave an evening party for a few of the officers and their wives.

The ladies of the yard have formed a "Leap-year german club," and will give a series of german in January. The officers have organized a whist club, and will hold regular meetings at the club house. A code of rules for the whist club has been adopted.

On Thursday evening last, Lieut. Zalinski delivered a lecture before the Naval Institute on the subject: "The pneumatic gun and its application to naval uses." The first class of cadets were allowed to attend the lecture, and most of the members availed themselves of the opportunity offered. The lecture was a good one, and Mr. Zalinski explained the gun and all its workings in a clear and impressive manner. The lecture gave general satisfaction, as did the lecturer's answers to the various questions asked by members of the Institute.

The engagement of Miss Williams, the guest of Mrs. Lieut. Mitchell and Ensign Stokely Morgan, has been announced. The same may be said of the engagement of Miss Snowden of Peekskill and Ensign Atwater.

Miss James of Cincinnati is visiting Mrs. Surgeon Walton in the yard. Lieut. Low, who reports for duty week before last, is attached to the Seamanship Department as an instructor.

Now that this session of Congress has opened, the bills in reference to the Academy and the cadets will be watched with great interest by officers and the cadets themselves. The recommendation of the Secretary, that a new practice ship, with modern armament and equipment, be built, is one that is of great moment. Such a step would be of the greatest benefit to the cadets. But the principal interest is centered in the bill for the reduction of the course to four years' duration. As this directly affects all cadets now in the Academy, it is not strange that their interest is awakened. The majority of cadets and officers are decidedly in favor of the passage of the bill in its present form.

#### Military Order of the Loyal Legion.

Following is a copy of an act approved March 10, 1887: Acts and Resolves of Massachusetts, chap. 67 (1887): "An act to prevent persons from unlawfully using or wearing the insignia of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States or of the Grand Army of the Republic." Be it enacted, etc., as follows: "Whosoever shall wilfully wear or use the insignia of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States or the insignia of the Grand Army of the Republic, for the purpose of representing that he is a member of either Order, unless he shall be a member of the Order whose insignia he shall so wear or use, shall be punished by fine not exceeding \$20, or by imprisonment in the house of correction not exceeding 30 days, or by both such fine and imprisonment." The Commander-in-Chief of the Military Order at their last meeting in Philadelphia took measures to have an act similar to this passed by other States.

A meeting of the Minnesota Commandery was held in St. Paul, Dec. 1. W. Bishop read a paper entitled "The Mill Springs Campaign—Personal Experience and Observations of a Company Officer." The following applications for membership were acted upon: Bvt. Brig. Gen. Alonzo Jay Edgerton, Bvt. Capt. Loren Warren Collins, Lieut. Col. Luther Loren Baxter, Lieut. Col. Chas. Frank Hausdorff, Lt. Wm. D. Paulkner, Capt. Ezra Farnsworth, Jr., Bvt. Lt. Col. George Franklin French, Lieut. Elwood Spencer Corser, Capt. John Melvin Shaw, Capt. Eleazar Abjiah Pratt, Lieut. Col. Reuben Clark Benton, Major Wm. Ragan, Lieut. James Austin Birby, Lieut. Marsh Pratt Hawkins, Col. Wm. Berry McCord, Capt. Chas. Henry Woods, Major Wm. Dinmore Hale, and Capt. John Paulson, all formerly of the U. S. Volunteers.

ONE of Beauregard's old soldiers sent him a dollar and requested him to send him a lottery ticket which would win a big prize. He said: "I was always at my post and never disobeyed orders. I came out of the war without clothes enough to wad a shot gun." The General answered: "My dear comrade: I send you a ticket that I hope will draw a prize, and beg leave to give you the following advice: If you stick to the lottery for four years as faithfully as you did to the Southern Confederacy you will not have clothes enough to wad a pop gun."

The Society of Veterans of the Regular Army and Navy has chosen the following officers for the ensuing year: Commander-in-Chief, Alexander B. Butts; Adjutant General, Fred R. Meres; Quartermaster-General, Harry W. Spooner; Inspector-General, Charles Holman; Commissary-General of Subsistence, Alexander J. Farmer; Chief of Engineers, Hubert Obele; Chief of Ordnance, Hiram Moon; Surgeon-General, Hiram J. Peurord; Chief Signal Officer, Charles Wilson; Judge-Advocate-General, George J. Jeffries.



Data of the performance have ever been taken, as none were obtainable by the board. The machinery is well proportioned and is capable of developing the 220 H. P. for which it was designed, provided that sufficient steam was supplied, but it is not certain that so much power has ever been realized. It is said that, under favorable circumstances, on one occasion, a run of 48 nautical miles was made in four hours; the revolutions per minute were 170, but neither the coal consumption nor indicated horse-power was given. In ordinary steaming, the speed, as given by the officers on board is about 10 knots, occasionally, but rarely reaching 11 knots, with a coal consumption of about 450 lbs. per hour. No log is kept.

During the boiler test, several sets of diagrams were taken from the engines, one set, with 143 revolutions per minute, giving an I. H. P. of 182.09, and another, with 187 revolutions, 127.65.

## CONCLUSION.

It is to be regretted that there were no means of increasing the rate of combustion and production of steam by a powerful forced draught. Under the conditions of the trial, the evaporation and rate of combustion were not greater than in boilers in common use in the Naval Service. The boiler steamed freely, was under easy control, and furnished comparatively dry steam. Its weight seems excessive for the quantity of steam furnished, but this is due largely to the heavy casing and brick work, which would be proportionally less for a number of boilers placed together. The advantage of accessibility of its parts for repairs may be, perhaps, offset by extra liability to derangement on account of the large number of joints required in the fire surface. During the trial, however, the joints were all perfectly tight, the boiler being new.

This report would be incomplete without an acknowledgment of the assistance rendered and facilities furnished by the officers of the U. S. Fish Commission at Woods Hole, and particularly of the liberality of Mr. Forbes, who not only placed the yacht and her crew at the disposal of the Government for the trial, but also supplied some necessary instruments.

## THE SASH.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

Will not the authorities at Washington please give back to the line the long-abolished "crimson silk net sash," with which all of the older officers were once so familiar? If no other good reason exists, its plain and well known distinction of the officer of the day, field and regimental, would be enough to warrant its use again. Even now confusion often arises in garrison and in camp where many officers are wearing swords for drill, courts, etc., for members of the guard to remember who is the officer of the day, and this trouble is still further increased when troops are on the march and all officers wear their swords.

In addition to the sash being the distinguishing emblem of the officer of the day, it will serve to relieve the plainest of our very modest uniform for officers. The expense of the sash is nominal, for a good one will last a lifetime. Its use as a bandage in case of flow of blood from wounds, has saved many a valuable life.

INFANTRY.

## DECISIONS OF THE SECOND COMPTROLLER.

In the case of William H. Gill, late Captain and M. S. K., U. S. A., discharged under act of July 15, 1870, the Second Comptroller decides that the officer was discharged from the service on the 23d of December, the day on which the order of December 22, 1870, would have reached him. It is further held that he was discharged under the act, and the year's extra pay which he afterwards received, is not to be stopped.

In the case of Thomas W. Sherman's claim for three months' extra pay for services in the Mexican war, as brevet major of 3d Artillery, commanding two companies of light artillery, the Second Comptroller holds that his son is entitled to recover the three months' extra pay as major of artillery.

In the matter of the stoppage of \$377.19 against the pay of Palmer G. Wood, Lieutenant 12th Inf., concurs in the correctness of the conclusion of the Commissary-General of Subsistence and the stoppage holds good. The sum named, the officer claims, was seized by robbers on the night of Oct. 6, 1878, while he was travelling by stage from Prescott to Yuma, Arizona. The Comptroller says that the officer having been relieved of duty as A. C. S. Sept. 30, 1878, he knows of no necessity for his having so large a sum, or any sum, of Subsistence funds in his possession at the time of the alleged robbery, Oct. 6, 1878.

## FORT OMAHA, NEB.

The Excelsior of Dec. 10 says:

Lieut. Wright has returned from that "furlin shore," New Jersey.... Lieut. Hoyt (Co. D) and Holm (Co. K) have been ordered for examination for appointment to Post O. M. Sergeant. [This is doubtful.—Ed. JOURNAL.]... Captain Nave has officially become a member of the garrison, but will reside in the city.... Capt. Clark has returned from his inspection trip to Santee agency.... Lieut. Arrasmith went to Fort Leavenworth this week on a short leave. It appears very difficult for Mr. A. to break entirely away from the associations formed during two years of duty there.... Mrs. Capt. McKeever returned on Tuesday from Fort Sherman, Idaho, bringing the encouraging report that her son Will is doing well, and is comfortably fixed at the post hospital there. The change of climate seemed to have an immediate effect upon him.... A very pleasant "ghost" party was given Wednesday. The "ghosts" assembled at the hall immediately after tattoo, at the request of Captain Dempsey, and for an hour or more a "lively animated" pantomime conversation was carried on among the white robed guests.

If I was a Captain or a Colonel, either, I would rather be a Drum Major, and have a far better looking band, and a long scepter with a gold knob on the end for to wack the enemies with and to knock their General down and take all his candy away, and his marbles and his top and everything.—(Johnny's composition in the San Francisco Examiner.)

Messrs. Hart and Stoddard, 112 East 24th street, N. Y., will issue during the coming week, in season for holiday presents, a book of views at West Point. They are similar in style to the views of U. S. Naval Academy issued this year by Mr. Hart. There are 40 pages, comprising 115 views printed on heavy plate paper (11 1/2 x 14) by the photo-gelatine process, bound in cloth, price \$1.00, and in leather, \$1.25.

At a meeting of the Wisconsin Commandery, held Milwaukee, Dec. 7, Gen. J. N. G. Whistler, U. S. A., retired, and Capt. J. W. Hinkley, U. S. V., were elected Companions. Major Gen. John Pope, U. S. A., having taken up his residence in St. Louis, has been transferred from the Commandery to Missouri.

## THE STATE TROOPS.

## MILITARY CIVILITIES.

LIEUT. TOTTER, U. S. A., in his report on the encampment of the Connecticut National Guard, says on the subject of saluting: "There was a noticeably remarkable improvement in this particular over last year. It seemed to me that at least one-half of those in camp were conscious of the requirement and gave evidence of intention to perform the courtesy. Of course it will take time to make this general, and a matter of second nature, but that it has received considerable and anxious attention at home during the past twelve months must have been apparent to all. Saluting must grow up in the country groups at home. Not only should the officers expect it and require it but they should take pains to place its rationale before the men in a reasonable and suggestive manner. Let it be understood as a symbol of comradeship—the 'sign' as it were of military Masonry—often drilled at it in the armories and more often spoken of during the drills. It is by example, by precept, and by line on line that these matters may be best brought about, and this so quietly that before one realizes it the victory is won."

"How frequently have we seen in life the rising of a gentleman at the approach of a lady, bring others to their feet by sheer example! And so it is in this matter of saluting, as a mark of military courtesy. Last year I had a splendid opportunity to see this force of example demonstrated. With a company of regulars I went into encampment with the Rhode Island National Guard, and in my opinion the direction in which the latter were most benefited lay in these elementary matters of discipline. Of course a single company was almost lost in a brigade, and yet it was astonishing to see how soon this little leaven disseminated itself. Upon several occasions in passing through this encampment I ran accidentally upon single regular soldiers amid groups of guardsmen. It was amusing to watch the effect of his salute. It was almost sure to beset others to follow the example, and probably led to explanations and discussions after I had passed along. It was soon noticed by the guardsmen themselves that their own officers were saluted just as naturally by these men as were the regular officers. The result was that in less than a week saluting became very prevalent, and was better understood than ever before. Now just such an example may be set by any single company of the National Guard."

"Among officers the courtesy appears to be already habitual, but this is the smallest part of the matter, necessary, of course, and of positive value as an example, but it certainly looks strange to see two officers punctiliously salute each other, as they pass through groups of non saluting soldiers! In the Regular Army the case would probably weed itself out in just the opposite way, for all the men would salute each of the officers, while they themselves unless actually acquainted, or of noticeably diverse rank, might hardly expect any mutual recognition. In fact it is a very rare thing to see 'salutes' exchanged as such between Regular officers, unless 'on duty.' Of course there is an exchange of recognition, and so far as I have seen, based almost entirely upon acquaintance, or decided difference of rank. The prominence which I have given to this topic both last year officially, and this year merely from a sense of personal interest in the Guard and in recognition of its manifest improvement, may seem to be undue, but it really is not so. It is vitally necessary to discipline. I care not how it shall become prevalent in the Guard, but when it does become so, it must and will react advantageously in every way."

## COAST DEFENCES AND THE MILITIA.

THE Ohio Soldier believes in the militia. It says: "We are in favor of the nation cultivating and encouraging this military spirit now. It is our best military defence. The money spent heretofore in coast defences have been mostly wasted. It is handled by a class of men who kept the Union Army equipped with muzzle loading arms in a market that had plenty of good breechloaders, which were purchased by the individual enterprise of the private soldier, when they were allowed to. One of these wise men lately reported against a magazine, gun because it gave the men the opportunity for too rapid firing! We should dislike to trust ourselves in the defences he would build and equip. Still we are not opposed to this system of building coast defences altogether. It has its useful features. It puts money in circulation in the cities which succeed in getting such appropriations; gives quite a number of men a good deal of money for a very little work; and helps the resident (Congressman) to a re-nomination. These are conveniences that are not to be despised; so we are not opposed to them altogether. We only insist that for every penny it squanders for coast defence, so-called, it ought to spend a hundred dollars in organizing, equipping, and supporting the militia."

## A PRINTER REPORTER.

ONE day during the encampment the managing editor of the Houston (Tex.) Post found he was short a man to report part of the proceedings on the grounds. Spying the foreman of the composing-room, he requested him to take notes of a company drill, and this is the way he did it:

"Promptly at ten o'clock the company marched upon the ground and was received by a burst of applause. Immediately the father of the chapel called time, and the foreman of the company began to call off by slugs. When he called out Slug 1, they unfixed bayonets, and kept on through the manual by numbers. The company was made up of numerous wrong fonts, there being a pica man alongside of a minion one, and a brevier boy alongside of a nonpareil one. In company front the line was very unevenly justified, there being a three-em space between some numbers, while between others there was a three-em quad. In platoon movements the fellow who acted as right hyphen slipped below the line, and all three proof-readers commenced to mark errors. In wheeling left in circle one hand full got badly squabbled, and when they went to call off a phalanx of four to send to the centre the whole firm got pried and the proof-readers and copy-holder

again got their work in. In marching in columns of fours another bad company error was made. Some thought they had got a pica-and-a-half table off the file, while others evidently thought they had struck four columns of figures and words, and put in a period when they should only have used a comma, in making time around drill-ground. When the assistant foreman was ordered to make up a four-page form, he made a serious error, having only a pica between two pages, while between others there was four-line pica. In marching in double-rank the first three lines were solid, while the remainder were leaded and double-leaded, which is not in accordance with tactics. The foreman, assistant foreman, proof-readers and copy-holder all had column rules, which some of them braided finely. After the United States proof readers were through marking errors the company passed out amid a storm of applause. Time, 27 minutes, 1 1/4 seconds."

And he drank nothing but beer, either.

## ILLINOIS NATIONAL GUARD.

CHICAGO, ILL., Dec. 12, 1887.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

TO REFER to the controversy which has been carried on through the columns of your journal regarding rifle practice, in this State, please allow me a word. The Illinois National Guard are not so much in need of the theoretical instruction they would receive from an officer of the Army, as they are wanting in the facilities for practical instruction on the range. We have many officers on our rolls who are fully abreast of the times in theory and could instruct their men if they could get them on the range. But, with one or two notable exceptions (although the last military code specially provides for the procuring, building, and maintaining of sufficient rifle ranges), there are no rifle ranges in the State. Highwood had but two targets for practice from 100 to 600 yards, and one for long range practice from 700 to 1,200 yards.

As the State orders prescribe that each man must practice at 100 yards "and each multiple thereof," up to and including 1,000 yards, as well as fire ten shots at skirmish drill between 500 and 1,000 yards, this meant the firing of a larger number of rounds per man than is contemplated in the scheme of any other State. If a man fired but two strings of five shots each, at from 100 to 600 yards, and one run at skirmish he would expend 70 rounds.

This expenditure of ammunition is eminently judicious, so far as instruction is concerned, but (and here is the principal trouble the Chicago troops have to contend with) it takes a certain time to do this amount of shooting. N. Y. State requires but 20 shots per man to win the highest decoration, while in Illinois a man has to fire at least 40 rounds to attain the lowest and 60 for the highest decoration. But this is predicated on making a sufficiently large score in the first five shots, to attain the desired aggregate. How few are able to do this! Reckoning one minute per shot, it is easy to ascertain how many men could practice at Highwood during the season in the time which could be taken from business.

The Chicago troops are fully awake to the necessity of rifle practice, and if we can have a range near the city, having a sufficient number of targets and with railroad accommodation so that too much time will not be wasted in going to and fro, will do good work.

Highwood is a range of the past, so far as we are concerned, as the United States authorities have taken possession and will probably commence building for the new post early next spring. We have to look elsewhere for next year. It is to be hoped that the rumor which is current to the effect that the selection of a site for a new range for the Chicago troops will be made in the near future, may prove true.

During this season's work at Highwood the men had to pay their railway fare, in addition to paying the expenses of the matches. This expense should be borne by the State and it is hoped that it may be arranged before next season opens.

It will probably not be possible to dispense with rifle practice at camp at present, but all the time we get at camp can be profitably employed in drills, instead of being compelled to spend so much time on the range.

Co. F, 1st Inf., Capt. J. M. Eddy, Jr., is the "banner" company in Chicago this year in rifle practice; beginning the season under auspices as unfavorable as those of any company, worked hard to get his men out for practice on the range, and at the end of the season had nine sharpshooters, seven experts, eight marksmen, and six riflemen. As a sample of the advance some of our members have made in rifle practice during the season, Pvt. F. W. Ludlow, Co. F, 1st Inf., had been practicing at long range on the last day of the season. He came back to the short range target about 4 P. M. with eight points short of the desired 250. He had previously made as follows: 500 yards, 23; 400, 23; 300, 21; 200, 17.

The detail was practicing at 600 yards. He was told to get down and shoot. He made 21. Then he went down to 500, but he did not better 21. Then to 400 where he made 24, and 300 where the first five shots were all "bulls-eyes." This left him but one point to gain. Back to 500 yards we went, with darkness coming down so fast it was impossible to tell the discs without a glass. The first string did not bring much result, as wind and light were changing rapidly, but the second yielded 23, and made him a sharpshooter. This man did not succeed in making a single score of 15 out of 25 at 500 yards during the season of 1886.

During the early days of November the Chicago contingent was on the qui vive. No orders were issued by the State authorities, but it was generally understood that we might be needed. It was also known that if we were needed the call would be sudden and imperative. The armories were all guarded, and on Thursday evening and early Friday, Nov. 11, there were not less than 500 to 600 men in the Chicago armories ready to respond to a call at a moment's notice. Fortunately, we were not needed.

H. T. L.

## AMBULANCE CORPS IN THE NATIONAL GUARD.

AN ambulance corps is to be established in the various regiments, batteries, and separate companies of the New York National Guard. For some time past the surgeons and assistant surgeons of the New York and Brooklyn regi-

ments have been considering the necessity of such a corps, and at their conferences they have united upon a plan to establish it. Their conclusions have been laid before Surg. Gen. Bryant, and he is to act upon their recommendations, subject to an order of Adj. Gen. Porter. Consultations have been held with the Surgeon General of the United States Army upon the subject, and he heartily approves of it.

#### ATHLETIC GAMES AT THE TWELFTH REGIMENT.

The athletic games held at the 12th Regiment armory, N. Y., on the evening of Dec. 10, under the auspices of the Regimental Athletic Club, were a great success, both in point of attendance and excellence of the contests. A very large and fashionable audience was present, every seat in the hall was filled, and many had to stand. The number of entries—253—exceeded those in any previous armory games, and the list comprised a large number of the best athletes. The management considered the number of entries, was excellent, the officials of the games being gentlemen prominent in athletic circles, and whose ability is second to none. The track was 12 laps to the mile, and provided at each corner with a new system of raised curb, (designed by Mr. C. J. Lavash, of the 12th Regiment.) These curbs could be instantly attached or detached from the corners without the adjustment of any screws, etc., and prevented any "corner clipping," and defined the track in a neat and clear manner.

The first event was a 60 yard dash handicap, in which there were 50 entries; it was finally won by A. N. Hutches, O. A. C., (12 ft.); R. W. McCaul, same club, second.

The 2-mile bicycle race handicap was well contested, and was won by E. I. Halstead, Harlem Wheelmen, (75 yds. start) in 6 min., 23 1/2 sec. E. C. Parker, same club, (85 yds.) winning second prize.

The final heat in the 1/4 mile run, was a good race, J. T. Norton, N. Y., won in 50 1/2 seconds. C. C. Barnes, O. A. C., being second.

The 1/4 mile run was a finally contested race, and was won cleverly by J. Paxton, Co. H, 12th N. Y., (25 yds. start), time, 2 min., 10 1/2 sec. G. Y. Gilbert, N. Y. A. C., the scratch man, was a close second.

The 1,000 yd. run handicap, was captured after a good race by W. F. Thompson, O. A. C., (10 yds. start), in 2 min., 31 1/2 sec. W. Skillman, S. A. C., second.

In the 250 yd. hurdle were 16 entries. It was finally won by the scratch man, C. F. Wiegand, N. Y. A. C., time 30 1/2 sec. H. Males second.

The 1 mile walk handicap had 16 entries, it was won by W. Doubeghy, N. A. C., (55 sec. start). O. C. Paynter, (40 sec. start), same club was a close second. E. D. Lange, M. A. C., the scratch man, was a close third.

The 600 yd. run, handicap, open to the 12th Regt. only, was a well contested race. It was won by J. Paxton, Co. H, 10 yds. start, in 1 min., 24 1/2 sec. C. E. Glendon, Co. H, was second, but was disqualified for being a professional. The third man, W. H. Lennon, Co. H (25 yds. start), thus wins second prize.

A potato race, open to the 12th Regt., was won by J. H. Bell, Co. D. The obstacle race, open to teams of four men each from any company in the 12th Regt., was very amusing, the teams having to jump hurdles, climb ladders, dive through barrels, etc. Many hurdles were broken by the third men, who inevitably jumped on their instead of over them. The funniest man was stout-limbed O'Donnell of Co. F, who, although slow, was sure, and got there all the same, even if he was last. This race was handsomely won by the team from Co. B, whose aggregate time was 5 min., 6 1/2 sec. The names of the winners were S. J. Munroe, W. F. Hannon, W. P. Falls, and M. F. Tyson. The team from Co. F made the second best time.

There were nine tug-of-war teams; so there was no end of tugs. Cable team, Jersey City, beaten by the Knights of the Brush; Co. K, 2d Regt., C. N. G., Wallingford, Conn., beaten by the Nassau Athletic Club, Brooklyn, N. Y.; the Arnold Hall team, beaten by the Busy Bee Athletic Association, Co. B, 2d Regt., N. Y.; the 12th Regt. team, beaten by the S. A. C. Jersey City, which victorious team was in turn beaten by the Knights of the Brush. After a lot of merriment, during which a man on the team of Co. B, 2d Regt., hurt his leg, and the belt of the Nassau A. C. team broke, the contest finally lay between the Knights of the Brush and Star A. C., and was won by the Knights of the Brush. This, after a brief dance, closed the entertainment.

Among the prominent gentlemen who rendered valuable assistance in the management of the games were: H. Males, College; Waldo Sprague, G. L. Burham, C. F. Bostwick, and W. W. Price, 12th Regt.; G. A. Avery, C. C. Hughes, and G. M. L. Sachs, Manhattan A. C.; C. A. Reed, N. Y. A. C.; W. H. Halpin, J. J. McDermott, E. F. Hubbard, and E. A. Krait. The entertainment reflects no small credit on the regiment, as well as on the few hard workers on the top-heavy committee.

#### RIFLE PRACTICE.

The first competition in the "Teams of Five" match was shot at the 12th Regiment Armory on Saturday evening, Dec. 10. Co. B was successful, winning this competition on a score of 320 out of a possible 350. The names and scores of the winning team were as follows:

	200 yds.	300 yds.	Total
Pvt. George W. Happy	32	35	67
Serjt. D. Valentine, Jr.	31	33	64
Serjt. H. W. Anderson	32	31	63
Lieut. D. A. Nesbitt	31	32	63
Pvt. C. F. Brinck	30	31	61

The scores of the other competing teams were Co. C, 316; K, 310; A, 309; G, 303; H, 303; F, 300; and N. C. S., 294; E, 284; D, 278. Co. D broke two records in this match, the off shoulder record, 154, (their own); and the total, 319, also their own. (Co. G also beat the record at 500 yards, making 160, the previous highest score having been 155, made by Co. B. The final competition in this match will be shot on Feb. 13, 1888.

#### MILITIA ITEMS.

It is deemed probable that a board of officers of the Pennsylvania National Guard, of suitable rank and experience, will soon be designated by the Adjutant General to consider the propriety and feasibility of equipping the infantry soldiers of Pennsylvania with new leggings.

The Brooklyn Eagle has a long article, the subject of which is indicated by the title: "As Citizen and Soldier—Career of Gen. E. L. Molineux in Peace and in War—A Man in Whom Brooklyn Takes a Just Pride and Delights to Honor—His Record on the Field of Battle and in the State Militia." It is accompanied by a portrait of the handsome Molineux.

The committee of the 3d Battery (Capt. Henry S. Haskin, commanding) in charge of the details are entitled to great credit for the success of the reception that took place on Dec. 14. The members of the battery are delighted that they are, at last, able to welcome their friends to a furnished house, which will to those who have been intimate with the battery's career for the past seven years, be a novelty. In accordance with an intention of this organization to tender a review in succession to the several ex-commanding officers of this battery, a review was on this occasion tendered to Maj. E. O. Hotchkiss.

The first promenade concert to take place in the 12th Regiment will be on Jan. 12.

Co. I, 12th N. Y., holds a reception at the Lexington Avenue Opera House on Dec. 27. A fine entertainment is looked forward to.

The officers of the 11th N. Y. still have the adoption of a new uniform under consideration. Samples have been shown, which are said to have impressed the board very much.

On Saturday, Dec. 17, a lecture on the Battle of Gettysburg will take place at the 12th Regiment Armory. Gen. Butterfield, Sickles, Barlow, Locke, Astor and Weeks and as many of the 12th Regiment who participated in that battle as can be found will be present. The Historical Committee desire all old members to communicate with them. It is also desired to get information concerning men who were

killed in battle, so that their names can be placed on a tablet, which is to be placed in the armory. It is proposed to have three-quarter life size pictures of all the colonels of the 12th, and also those of the officers who participated in the Mexican War, viz: Gen. Sweeney, Col. Carney, Capt. Bax-ley, Lieut. Hyndman and others, and those of the officers who participated in the War of the Rebellion, placed in prominent positions in the armory. The veteran's organization is making great headway. One hundred new names have been enrolled on the list of the corps. Nearly 500 are now on the active membership list.

The new stand of colors for which Col. Packner applied while commanding of the 12th Regiment were received at the armory Dec. 12. They are handsomely embroidered in colored silk. New guide flags, the first made under the new regulation, with the numerals inclosed in a circle of stars, also embroidered, were received at the same time.

The question of Col. Austen's rank is exciting the 2d Brigade. The case of Col. Ward, of the 2d, is quoted by some as a precedent, as he was allowed his old rank on returning to the regiment. Lieut. Col. John H. Frothingham, A. A. G. 3d Brigade, has expressed himself in the following manner: "I don't see how Col. Austen can get his old rank. A supernumerary officer is assigned to a command temporarily and cannot vote on questions that the other officers can. It certainly would not be very pleasant for an officer to be debarré from such privileges for any length of time. When Col. Austen took his old rank on returning to the 12th, he was one of the strongest objectors. So if he desires to be consistent I don't see how he can make his claim for precedence on the strength of his being on the supernumerary list." This is illogical. If Colonel Austen was overruled to his disadvantage in the case of Colonel Ward there is the more reason why he should now be allowed to take advantage of the precedent then established.

On December 13 the survivors of the 25th Regiment N. J. Vols. held a reunion at Paterson, N. J., under the direction of the Veteran Association of the regiment, Col. And. Derrom, president. This was the 25th anniversary of the Battle of Fredericksburg, Va., in 1862.

The Fenton Guards, 13th Separate Co., Infantry, N. G. S. N. Y., has been reorganized. Up to two months ago the company was composed wholly of Irish-Americans, and they were so lax in all soldierly regulations that the State authorities decided to muster out the command, but Henry Smith was induced to take the captaincy to endeavor to run the company. Since that time the membership has increased to 98, and there are enough applications to bring it up to the maximum of 104. R. E. Fenton, son of the late Gov. Fenton, for whom the company was named, is 1st lieutenant, Frederick W. Hyde is 2d lieutenant, D. W. Remus, M. D., surgeon, and D. H. Post, Q. M. Sorat.

The officers of the 47th N. Y., have decided to tender a review to Brig.-Gen. McLeer on the occasion of the presentation of marksmen's badges about the middle of January. The following is the Committee of Arrangements: Lieut.-Col. Benson, Quartermaster, Miller, Captain, Perrieres, of G. H. Cobb, of K. and Lieut. Emile Christofel, of D. Co. B will give his annual reception Feb. 21, and Co. G a concert and reception at the armory Jan. 12.

#### MICHIGAN.

COL. E. CROFTON Fox, chairman of the Military Board, accompanied by Brig.-Gen. I. C. Smith, Gen. Dobell, Gen. Atwater, Gen. Newberry, Col. Karmarth, Col. Butler and officers of the Grand Rapids and Indiana railway, were at Mackinac Island last week to investigate and report as to the feasibility of holding the next encampment there. An effort will be made to induce the Government to allow the Regular troops stationed at Fort Wayne, Chicago and other points to go into camp with the militia.

#### WISCONSIN NATIONAL GUARD.

THE Chicago Times of Dec. 11 says: The enthusiasm with which the Wisconsin guardsmen have taken up the subject of target practice promises well for their future excellence in this branch. A military man in a conversation on the subject recently said: "What the Wisconsin guardsmen need is practical instruction. The best way to secure this is through the State making application to the War Department for the detail of some enthusiastic young rifleman as instructor for the State troops in this very necessary branch. The Wisconsin National Guard in drill and discipline equals anything in the country, but it is in great danger of falling behind other States in knowledge of the methods in vogue in the Army for instructing the men in the use of their weapons. Afterward, on an invitation cordially extended by the officers of the 4th Battalion, Lieut. Reade repeated to them the substance of what he had said at Madison. This enthusiasm was catching. This missionary work bore fruit at once, and to-day all that the companies are waiting for is a gallery outfit to commence practice. Some, as the Sheridan Guards and South Side Rifles have bought their own, not waiting for the tardy action of the State authorities, and the 4th Battalion may yet be the first organization in the State to have a battalion team in the field.

It is not the fault of the guardsmen that they do not keep up with the procession. What they could do even with insufficient instruction was shown at Fort Snelling, where three companies of the 3d Regiment with such practice as they could obtain at home, and such instruction as was comprised in the papers read before the officers of the National Guard by Lieuts. Boutelle and Reade, of the Regular Army, went into a match, and came away with a number of prizes and a score of which they had no reason to be ashamed in each contest they entered.

The first move toward bringing the Wisconsin Guard up in line with other States was made two years ago when Gen. Chapman induced Lieut. Boutelle, U. S. A., an enthusiast on the subject of rifle practice, to read a paper on the subject before the officers of the Guard at their annual convention. Last winter this was followed by another from Lieut. Phil Reade, of Gen. Terry's staff, who, in response to an urgent invitation, gave the assembled officers a plain, practical talk on the methods in vogue in the Army for instructing the men in the use of their weapons. Afterward, on an invitation cordially extended by the officers of the 4th Battalion, Lieut. Reade repeated to them the substance of what he had said at Madison. This enthusiasm was catching. This missionary work bore fruit at once, and to-day all that the companies are waiting for is a gallery outfit to commence practice. Some, as the Sheridan Guards and South Side Rifles have bought their own, not waiting for the tardy action of the State authorities, and the 4th Battalion may yet be the first organization in the State to have a battalion team in the field.

#### THIRTEENTH BROOKLYN, COLONEL D. E. AUSTEN.

It required more than the wild storm that raged on Thursday evening, Dec. 16, to keep the good people of Brooklyn away from the armory of the 13th Regt. This was always been a favorite command in the City of Churches, and the occasion marked an important era in its history, for Col. D. E. Austen was to resume the colonelcy. The result was a crowd of perhaps 4,000 people.

The armory was brilliant with lights and flowers, and was elegantly decorated. Col. Austen had hardly reached his own room when he was waited on by the 1st sergeant of the regiment and presented with an elegant set of equipments. A reception followed, and then the first call for the dress parade was sounded.

About 500 men were in line when parade was formed, with Maj. Ackerman in command. A fine looking body of men they were, and fine material they are from which to make a splendid battalion, but they are now sadly deficient in many respects. As a rule the men need setting up, and the execution of the manual was distinctly and evenly poor. In due course, the order under which Colonel Austen assumed command was read, and Major Ackerman formally turned over the regiment to the colonel, with some hearty words of welcome, to which a very soldierly response was made.

#### OHIO NATIONAL GUARD.

THREE companies of Ohio militia under command of Maj. John W. Gibbons, of the 5th Regt., went to Painesville by special train Oct. 8 by order of Adj. Gen. Axline, who came up from Columbus in response to an appeal of Sheriff Arthur of Lake County for troops. Gen. Axline spent the

night there and went to Fairport next day, accompanied by Col. Flick of the 5th Inf. The troops spent the night in Painesville and Dec. 9 went to Fairport, where they established a camp for the purpose of overhauling the laborers employed on the ore docks, in case they should propose to start a riot. There being no indication of trouble the troops were ordered home.

#### POSITION FOR 300-YARD SHOOTING.

(From the Boston Herald.)

THE new Texas position for shooting at 300 yards is thus described: "The rifleman is supposed to be right handed. He sits down facing nearly to the right of the direction in which he wishes to shoot, his feet are close to his body, and, holding the grip of his rifle with his right hand, he embraces his knees with his arms, so that each knee is just inside each elbow, rests the rifle over the left elbow, the left hand grasping the right arm or coat sleeve between the wrist and elbow, presses the butt of the rifle to the shoulder, if possible bends forward his head so as to take aim, and fires."

#### CALIFORNIA NATIONAL GUARD.

The election of Lieut.-Col. J. Morryn Donohue to Colonel, 5th Regiment, and Capt. T. S. Taylor, to Major, 2d Regiment, has been warmly endorsed by the rank and file of their respective commands. Maj. Taylor has been identified with the National Guard of New York, New Jersey, and California for about a quarter of a century. A member of the 7th N. Y. he saw service in the Army of the Potomac, and is now member of George H. Thomas Post, No. 2, and present Asst. Adj.-General of the G. A. R., Department of California.

#### RECENT DEATHS.

LIEUTENANT GEORGE WILLIAMS, the senior 1st Lieutenant of the U. S. Revenue Marine, died Dec. 11, aged 60, at New Bedford, Mass. He entered the service as third lieutenant July 24, 1867, was promoted second lieutenant July 29, 1873, and commissioned first lieutenant March 8, 1875. He was in the merchant marine and whaling service before entry in the Revenue Marine, and had served in revenue cutters on nearly every station in the U. S., including Alaska, and had been until recently in command of the Revenue steamer *Guthrie* at Baltimore, Md. He had passed his examination for promotion to captain.

THE Right Hon. Richard Bickerton Pemell Lyons, G. C. B., G. C. M. G., D. C. L., First Viscount Lyons, better known in America as Lord Lyons, died, Dec. 5, at London, England, in his 71st year. His diplomatic career was distinguished. He was British Minister at Washington during the critical period of the war, and bore himself in such courteous manner that he enjoyed great personal popularity throughout, and his departure was the cause of general regret.

MRS. HENRIETTA CONSTANTIA ABERT, died, Dec. 10, at Homewood, near Rockville, Md., the residence of her husband, Col. Chas. Abert, in the 60th year of her age. Mrs. Abert was a sister of Prof. Bahe, of the Coast Survey, and a great granddaughter of Benjamin Franklin. She was well known in Washington, where she has a sister, widow of the late Gen. Wm. H. Emory, and in Montgomery County, where she occupied a high social position.

DR. BENJAMIN RUSH PLUMLEY, an associate of William Lloyd Garrison in the earliest agitation against slavery, died at his residence in Galveston, Tex., Dec. 9, aged 77. During the late war he served on Gen. Fremont's staff, and afterward on the staff of Gen. Banks.

MR. SPRINGER HARRAUM, who died at St. Paul, Dec. 8, was the father of Mrs. Brooks, wife of Mr. L. C. Brooks, formerly an officer of the 5th U. S. Cavalry.

CAPTAIN STEPHEN E. SLUTTER, who served as acting ensign, U. S. Navy, from May, 1863, until August, 1864, died at Hartford, Conn., Dec. 13.

#### LEAGUE ISLAND, PA.

THE Philadelphia Inquirer, in an illustrated article on the excellent facilities of the Navy-yard at Philadelphia, says:

The destinies of the yard at the present time are controlled by Commandant Edward E. Potter. The commandant is a bluff, hearty old seaman, and has a record that many a man would be proud to possess. Maj. James Forney commands the Marine Corps. The recruiting ship *St. Louis* also attracts the attention of visitors. The *St. Louis* is a recruiting vessel, but its usefulness in this direction is very much impaired on account of its not being nearer the centre of the city. Any sketch of the League Island Navy-yard would be incomplete without a special mention of Secretary W. J. Manning. He has occupied his present position since 1864, and has truly "grown gray in the service." Wherever any one about the department desires information, he instinctively turns to Mr. Manning, and if he cannot give it, no one else can. Some of the officers suspect Mr. Manning of being a talking encyclopedia, and a few minutes' talk with him only tends to confirm this suspicion.

#### FORT NIobrARA, NEB.

THE Excelsior of Dec. 10 says:

The new quarters for the band are rapidly approaching completion. Maj. Corlies, of the 3th, with his wife, have returned from a brief visit to Fort Robinson. Capt. Savage has returned after a ten months' leave spent in visiting the principal cities of Europe. Lieut. M. W. Day, 5th Cav., was a visitor last week. Lieut. Hyde, 3d Inf., returned from Fort Robinson last week, accompanied by his charming wife.

#### AMERICAN GUN IRON.

E. C. POTTER, general superintendent North Chicago Rolling Mill Company, recently wrote to Wm. P. Hunt, Esq., president South Boston Iron Works, as follows: "The gun-iron cranks that we have in our reversing engine at the present time were made by your company in 1881, and have been in continuous service since June 1882, and have given the best satisfaction. The engine of which they are a part is rated at 5,000 nominal horse power, indicated horse power about 3,500. In rolling rails this engine reverses a speed in about a minute and a half, and attains a speed on the long passes of about 165 revolutions per minute, which is pretty severe work on all of its parts. The cranks have never given us the slightest trouble, although we have broken on this engine three 15-inch hammered steel crank pins, but the cranks still remain intact, and in as good a

condition as when they were first put in the engine. I consider the gun iron as very reliable, and a most excellent material for this purpose."

Mr. Hunt sends us this statement as a confirmation of the position he has taken as to the strength, endurance, and reliability of large castings of gun iron. A letter was recently received by Mr. Hunt from a large firm in Rouen, France, inquiring as to the best brands of American pig iron, which they say they want for the manufacture of ordnance.

#### THE ATLANTA'S GUNS.

The answer of the Ordnance Bureau of the Navy Department to the criticisms passed upon the armament of the cruiser *Atlanta* by Capt. Bunce is contained in an indorsement by Commo. Sicard upon the report of the *Atlanta's* commander, in which the Chief of the Ordnance Bureau says he thinks the arrangement of the guns excellent, as there is no point where an enemy can place herself without being exposed to a heavy fire; also that the general plan of the gun mounts is as good as that of any tower mounts of which the Navy had knowledge at the time they were designed. The mounts are heavy, however, and training whips should be used with them. It is believed that they will be satisfactory when fittings, now being prepared for them, are put in place.

In regard to dispensing with the ordnance work room Commo. Sicard says a single work room would be well enough provided that all departments have an equal right to work in it. With regard to the alleged "want of correspondence between the offensive and defensive powers of the ship" the Chief says it must be remembered that powerful bow and stern fire is desirable not only for purposes of attack but also for defence. In each case he does not see what is to be gained by adding a great weight of top works and deck, and then being obliged to reduce battery power both in weight and command, and also to reduce the protective deck which is now used. He adds that no change should be made in the principal arrangements of the *Atlanta* until she has had a considerable period of service at sea.

#### THE PIONEERS OF ARIZONA.

GENERAL MILES delivered an address to the Society of Arizona Pioneers at Tucson on Nov. 9. As the descendant of eastern pioneers he commended this class as representing the true spirit of American progress and civilization, saying:

We need but to look back to the days of Standish, Church, Williams, Allen, Morgan, Putnam, George Rodgers Clark, and the many others to see the fearless spirit and heroic enterprise that prompted them to extend the settlements and

colonies through the forests of the East, encountering every hardship, contending inch by inch against savage foes in overwhelming numbers, until that resolute spirit of progress burst forth in 1776 in the Declaration of Independence. The army of Washington was largely composed of pioneers, hunters, farmers and mechanics; it was the men with hunting jackets and leather aprons who taught British battalions under Burgoyne the true force of the indomitable spirit of the American people.

Referring to the fact that Arizona has 73,000,000 acres of public land he urged that some portion of the surplus revenue should be expended in following in Arizona the example of the British in India, where farmers and producers have wisely expended millions of British gold in developing water and in the construction of vast irrigating canals and storage reservoirs, by which they have made that remarkable country one of the most productive in the world. Surely, said Gen. Miles, there can be no reason why the United States should be outdone in national enterprise. While millions of dollars are appropriated for river and harbor improvements, possibly it would be well to devote some attention to the vast area of the West, portions of which though comparatively useless now, might be turned into busiest scenes of industry.

#### THE NICARAGUA CANAL SURVEY.

The Nicaragua Canal Surveying Expedition is commanded by Civil Engineer R. E. Peary, U. S. Navy. Chiefs of parties are J. Francis Le Baron, Domingo G. Cartaya, Frank P. Davis, J. W. Pethard, Garnett Savage, William J. Maxwell, J. F. Perez, Assistant Engineers—W. V. Alford, J. G. Holcomb, F. G. Bernhardt, H. C. Miller, P. H. Bevier, McDonough Craven, Ricardo Molina, H. C. Littlefield, Culixto Guiteras, A. J. Menocal, E. M. Hunt, J. T. Ford, P. W. Bennett, Surgeon Wm. Nicholson, M. D. There are seven rodmens, six chainmen, two clerks, two draughtsmen, a leadman, and the inevitable *Herald* correspondent. These gentlemen are under contract with the Construction Company for nine months, by which time it is presumed the surveys will be completed. Mr. Peary, who heads the expedition, is a man of thirty-one years of age.

Notes of the Survey will be forwarded to New York as fast as taken where the location will be determined by the Chief Engineer, Mr. A. G. Menocal, Civil Engineer, U. S. N., and then staked out accordingly on the ground at Nicaragua.

Mr. Peary reports that "every foot of the line has been measured with a chain or stadia, a transit or a graduated line in the hands of trained officers has turned every angle, and a level rod has been placed and carefully read at every stake from one end of the line to the other, and these stakes are one hundred feet or less apart."

#### THE SIGNAL CORPS.

SECOND COMPTROLLER BUTLER has rendered a decision in the matter of the accounts of Capt. S. M. Mills and Lieut. Robert Craig, late property and disbursing officers of the Signal Corps, which shows a disposition to overlook slight irregularities occurring before the accounting officers laid down a rule to govern disbursements made by the corps. These accounts have been reopened and are now in process of adjustment in the office of the Third Auditor. The Comptroller states that numerous changes of method have been made by the signal office since the rendition of the accounts, both as to the forms of vouchers to be used and the amount and kind of evidence to be filed in support of expenditures, and that the disbursements, the vouchers for which were held up, were made under the direction of the Chief Signal Officer prior to any decision by the accounting officers that the mode was irregular and unauthorized. For these reasons the Comptroller is of the opinion that where the officer's written explanation shows that the expenditures were made in good faith, in obedience to the orders of the Chief Signal Officer, and where there is no other objection than a question as to the proper appropriation to be charged, or a failure to comply with the strict letter of the statute as to the method of purchase, such objection should be waived and the amount passed to the officer's credit.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

#### FORT WASHAKIE, WYO.

DECEMBER 7, 1887.

OUR minstrel troupe has been having rehearsals for about one month in anticipation of an entertainment to be given on Dec. 9 at the post. We are trying to enlighten both the post and vicinity by continuing different plays. The officers and officers' daughters of the post gave an entertainment on Dec. 1, entitled, "Toby Tweedleton's Tail Coat," which was witnessed by many from far and near and which proved a great success, for which 2d Lieut. J. F. McBlain, 9th Cav., deserves great credit, and also other members of the troupe. The programme was as follows: Mr. J. H. Ballman, manager; Mr. W. B. Gibbs, stage manager; Bones, G. S. Rowland; tampo, J. H. Smith; interlocutor, J. H. Ballman, Part I.—Overture, orchestra; Opening chorus, troupe; Sweet Roses Will Bloom Again, T. Thomas; Ride on Dat Golden Mule, Bones; Norene Morrene, C. E. McDowell; Chilli'n, Come Along, Tampo; I Can't Forget the Happy Past, W. B. Gibbs; Grand finale (tableau), entire company. Overture, orchestra. Part II.—Plantation melodies, J. Thomas; Simple Simon, W. B. Gibbs; Darkey tragedian, Manager (Brown), C. M. Snell; Tragedian, C. E. McDowell; Quartette: Thomas, Samuels, Ballman and Hoster. Kitty from Cork and Dandy Pat, Rowland and Smith. Overture, orchestra. Part III.—Troublesome Servant, Old Grimes, J. H. Ballman; Handy Andy, J. Thomas. Overture, orchestra. Part IV.—Scenes from Macbeth: Scene I.—Malcolm, H. J. Hoster; Macduff, W. B. Gibbs. Scene II.—Macbeth, C. E. McDowell; Seyton, J. H. Ballman. Tableau.

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The Chicago completed a successful trial of her machinery at the wharf on Tuesday last, having developed a total of nearly 4,500 I. H. P., including the auxiliaries. Mr. Coryell, the designer, was on board a part of the time, and expressed himself as satisfied with the performance of the engines. The ship went on the sea trial for power and speed the latter part of the week and has not yet returned.

#### ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Fort Washakie.—See answer to Ajax in this week's JOURNAL.

Ajax.—The decision means that linen collars are now a portion of the "prescribed uniform."

C. C. S.—Have all the Presidential appointments to West Point for next June been made? **Ans.**—Yes.

J. E. S.—Captain Alexander E. Drake, U. S. A., retired, is alive and resides at 1,624 Page street, Philadelphia.

C. S. asks: Can an enlisted man demand his discharge by proving that he pays taxes on real estate worth \$5,000 and more? **Ans.**—No.

O.—Senator Hawley is chairman of the Senate Committee on Military Affairs and Senator Cameron of the Committee on Naval Affairs.

J. W. B. asks: What vacancies will occur for either Annapolis or West Point in 1888 in any of the districts of New York? **Ans.**—2d, 5th, 6th and 8th, to Annapolis, are vacant; 14th, N. Y., to West Point, is vacant.

Clericus.—General Howard recommended that General Service clerks be ranked for retirement as follows: Class 3 with hospital stewards; Class 2 with ordnance sergeants; Class 1 with quartermaster sergeants; and General Service messengers with sergeants of the line.

F. M. asks: Can a soldier who, receiving a furlough from the A. G. O., to take effect after re-enlistment, re-enlist in any regiment in the Service, show the order for a furlough and receive a furlough? **Ans.**—No; not without special authority, which is not likely to be given except under very special circumstances.

J. K.—The following were the captains of the 1st U. S. Infantry on the reorganization in May, 1815: Isaac L.

Baker, Wm. O. Butler, John Jones, James Davis, Hen. Chotard, Wm. Laval, Anatole Peychaud, F. L. Ainelung, Wm. Christian and John Read. There was no captain named French in the Mounted Rifles in 1846.

C. C. F.—The rank of non-commissioned officers still stands as follows: \* \* Sergeant major and veterinary surgeon; quartermaster sergeant (regimental); ordnance, commissary, and post quartermaster sergeant, and hospital steward of the first class; 1st sergeant; saddler sergeant (regimental); sergeant; corporal. And in each grade by date of commission, appointment or warrant. The establishment of a Hospital Corps has not altered the standing of the hospital steward in this respect.

Old Volunteer asks: What was the monthly pay of privates of U. S. Volunteers from April, 1861, to the close of the war? **Ans.**—From April, 1861, to Aug. 6 of that year—Infantry, \$11 per month, cavalry and light artillery, \$12. The act of Aug. 6, 1861, increased the pay of all privates in the Regular Army and volunteers in the Service of the U. S. to \$13 per month. The act of June 20, 1864, increased the pay of privates of cavalry, artillery and infantry, to \$16 per month. So it continued until the end of the war. The act of May 15, 1872, reduced it to \$13, and so it now stands.

S. B. G. asks: How does a color sergeant rank in a battalion and how does he stand in regard to the company he is taken from? **Ans.**—The Military Regulations vary in different States, and your question is therefore too general to be accurately answered. In the State of New York the color sergeant is a member of the non-commissioned staff, and is not borne on a company roll. He is, of course, under the immediate command of the captain of the color company, when the battalion is under arms, but not otherwise.

Non-Com.—What is the full line of duty or instruction, as prescribed in the Regular Army, for a 1st sergeant in forming his company from the time he commands to fall in until he turns the company over to the commanding officer? **Ans.**—The duties of the 1st sergeant are of two kinds: first, the general duties resulting from his office, which include the maintenance of discipline, the correction of mistakes and the general charge of the company while he is in immediate command. His specified tactical duties are as follows: When the assembly sounds, he takes his post six paces in front of where the centre will be, and commands, "Fall in!" As soon as the assembly ceases, he commands, "Left Face," brings the company to support arms, and calls the roll, noting all absentees. He next brings the men to carry arms, and commands "Count Four," after which he directs any necessary completion of incomplete sets of four and designates the division of platoons. He then faces to

the front, salutes the captain and reports the result of the roll call, after which he faces about, marches up to the line, faces to the left, moves to his post on the right, faces to the right, steps to the rear, halts, faces about, and takes his place in line.

#### FOREIGN ITEMS.

The latest French Cabinet includes M. de Mahy, Minister of Marine, and Gen. Legerot, Minister of War.

The military authorities at Halifax, N. S., say that the story circulated of an attempt to explode the gun cotton tank at George's Island was a hoax.

The new Russian armored cruiser *Souvenir de l'Azov*, just completed, is said to be capable of steaming 20 miles an hour, or even more, and of carrying sufficient coal for a voyage of 20,000 miles without entering port. The armament consists of 16 8-centimetre guns, and it is also equipped with two torpedo boats. The crew numbers 500 sailors and 25 officers, and the first commander of the ship is to be Capt. Lohmen, who was naval tutor to the Grand Duke George Alexandrovitch.

We have been favored with the following extract from a letter written by an American lady visiting Paris: "Taking the world here as I meet it in the cars and omnibuses, in the shops and the streets, I never saw a more selfish, uncivil, rude set. Republicanism doesn't agree with them. They need a monarchy to teach them good manners. It is an acknowledged fact that the masses have changed ever since royalty went out. They think to be equal is to look out for number one and invite every one else to do the same. If you don't give the cab driver just the *pour boire* he expects he will shout after you 'Oh, Anglaise,' and dear knows what else. It is very difficult to make a street car stop for you, unless you swing your umbrella at them and look as if you were going to pounce on the horses' bridles. I used to come in every day in a fury, but now I have gotten used to these things and ignore them. The people are poor and dissatisfied, but none eager for revolution as they once were; they have grown

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#### BIRTHS.

PETTIT.—Nov. 30, to Lieutenant and Mrs. Jas. S. Pettit, 1st U. S. Infantry, a daughter.

#### MARRIED.

CARSON-SUMNER.—At Fort Leavenworth, Kas., Dec. 14, Lieutenant JOHN M. CARSON, Jr., 5th Cavalry, to Miss MARGARET SUMNER, daughter of General Edwin V. Sumner, Major 5th Cavalry.

DODD-ZACHOS.—At New York City, Dec. 15, 1887, Lieut. A. W. DODD, U. S. Navy, to Miss MARGARET ALTONA ZACHOS, daughter of Dr. J. C. Zachos.

IRWIN-BARBOR.—At Washington, D. C., December 13, Lieutenant W. M. IRWIN, U. S. Navy, to Miss BESSIE BARBOR.

MCLEAN-JARVIS.—At Towanda, Pa., Dec. 8, Lieutenant WALTER MCLEAN, U. S. Navy, to EMMA BOWNE, daughter of Asa A. Jarvis, Esq.

#### DIED.

ABERT.—At Homewood, near Rockville, Md., Dec. 10, Mrs. HENRIETTA CONSTANTIA ABERT.

CHURCH.—At her residence, in Tarrytown, N. Y., Saturday, Dec. 10, in the 79th year of her age, CHARA EMILY, widow of the Rev. Dr. Pharellus Church, daughter of the late John Conant, of Vermont, and mother of William Conant, Frank Pharellus, and John Adams Church.

DE LANY.—At Chicago, Ill., Dec. 5, GEORGE FIELD, father of Mrs. De Lany, wife of Lieut. De Lany, 9th Infantry.

HARBAUGH.—At St. Paul, Minn., Dec. 8, SPRINGER HARBAUGH, father of Mrs. L. L. C. Brooks.

KELLOGG.—At Columbus Barracks, O., Dec. 6, LOUISE HENRIETTA KELLOGG, the beloved daughter of Major and Mrs. W. L. Kellogg, aged 9 years, 6 months and 12 days.

ORD.—At Santa Barbara, Cal., November 29, RUTH ORD, youngest daughter of the late General E. O. C. Ord, U. S. A.

RODGERS.—On Sunday, Dec. 11, at the residence of her grandfather, Harford Co., Maryland, SARA PERBY, infant daughter of Commander Frederick and Sara M. F. Rodgers, U. S. Navy.

SLUYTER.—At Hartford, Conn., Dec. 13, Captain WILLIAM E. SLUYTER, formerly Acting Ensign, U. S. Navy.

SMITH.—At St. Luke's Hospital, New York City, Dec. 14, General THOMAS KIRBY SMITH.

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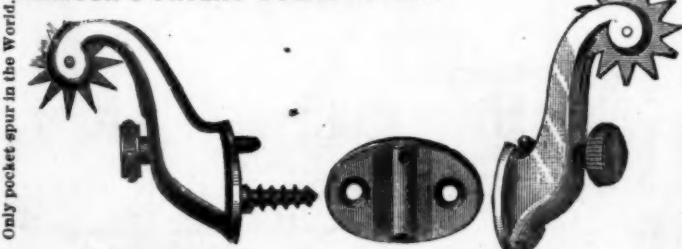
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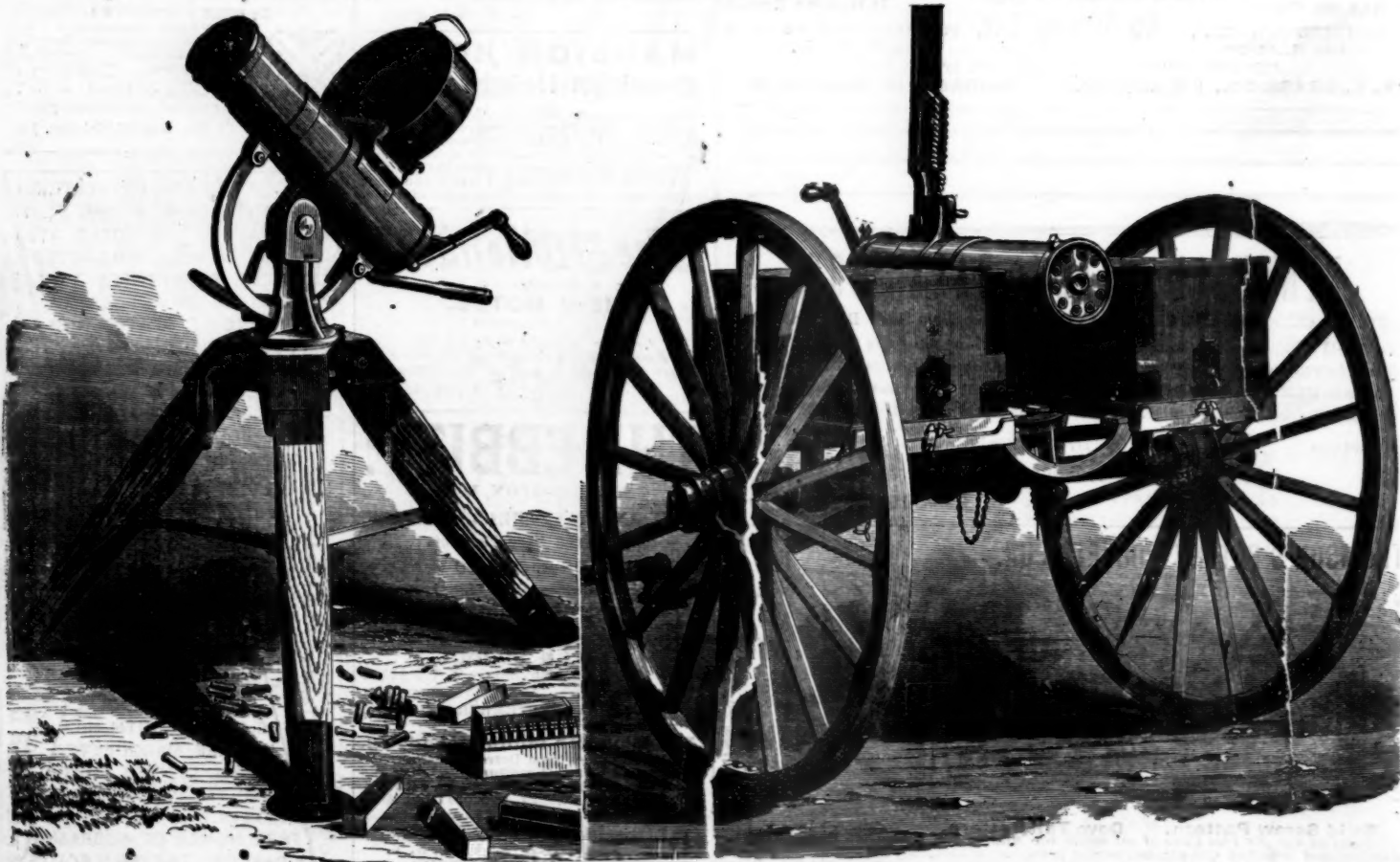
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